

# STARS



# GOP senator: FBI report shows no Kavanaugh misconduct

AND LISA MASCARO Associated Press

WASHINGTON - A top Senate Republican said Thursday the confidential FBI report on charges that Brett Kavanaugh sexually abused women three decades ago "found no hint of misconduct" by the Supreme Court nominee.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, made his remarks - and urged his colleagues to confirm the conservative judge - in a written statement hours after the post-midnight





Kavanaugh

certain prospects for approval depending in part on the decisions of five wavering senators, law-makers began viewing the document in a secure room in the Capitol complex. "There's noth-

delivery of the FBI document to Congress. With Kavanaugh's un-

ing in it that we didn't already know," Grassley contended, basing his comment on a briefing he said he'd received from com-mittee aides. He added, "This investigation found no hint of misconduct.

Democrats have complained that the FBI's reopening of its Kavanaugh background check has been far too limited, leaving out contact with crucial potential witnesses. They say some people had reached out to be interviewed by the FBI or the Judiciary Committee but were not questioned.

SEE REPORT ON PAGE 8

### **MILITARY**

# **CNN: US planning show** of force to deter China

Bloomherg News

第3種郵便物設可

HONG KONG - The U.S. Pacific Fleet is drafting plans for a global show of force to warn China and to demonstrate resolve to deter Beijing's military actions. CNN reported, citing several unidentified U.S. defense officials.

The draft proposal from the Navy recommends that the Pacific Fleet conduct a series of operations during a single week in November that would involve American warships, combat aircraft and troops to demonstrate that the U.S. can counter potential adversaries quickly on several fronts, CNN said.

We plan for a variety of contingencies and different operations, but we do not comment on future operations," said U.S. Navy Capt. William Kafka, spokesman for Indo-Pacific Command

military, CNN reported. The plan suggests sailing ships and flying aircraft near China's territorial waters in the South China Sea and the Taiwan Strait in freedom-ofnavigation operations to demonstrate the right of free passage in international waters, the report said.

China has publicized a series of military exercises in recent months, with President Xi Jinping presiding over the country's biggest-ever fleet review in April. Last month, roughly 3,200 Chinese soldiers and 30 aircraft participated in Russia's largest military drills since the Cold War.

Earlier this week, the U.S. accused China's navy of "unsafe and unprofessional" conduct near an occupied reef in the South China Sea after a Chinese destroyer maneuvered close to the bow of an American warship attempting to assert navigation rights. While close encounters between



DANIEL BARKER/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Sailors aboard the USS Wasp prepare to man the rails Tuesday as the amphibious assault ship arrives in Singapore.

U.S. and Chinese forces are not unprecedented, the incidents were seen as the latest indication of rising tensions between

The Navy proposal focuses on operations in the Pacific, but the CNN report said they could stretch as far as the western coast of South America, where China is expanding investments and diplomatic relationships. If the initial proposal is approved, the missions could be expanded close to Russian territory, it said.

# Pentagon pushed to explain broad powers to protect allies overseas

By Missy Ryan The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - A Democratic senator is pressing the Pentagon to explain a policy that allows the military to launch attacks to protect an array of foreign forces, a practice that critics contend adds to already inflated powers to conduct counterterrorism missions overseas.

Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., in a letter to Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, asked the Pentagon to explain what he described as a "broad and troubling" interpretation of presidential authority under a military doctrine known as collective self-defense.

Under that principle, the military can

conduct strikes to defend foreign troops it identifies as partner forces, even when U.S. personnel are not at risk and when no engagement has been authorized by Congress. Because U.S. troops might not be involved or even present when the strikes occur, it goes beyond the right of self-defense that U.S. troops have at all times.

In his Oct. 2 letter, Kaine said the "unintended consequences of this policy could be grave, and it raises the possibility of inadvertently becoming entangled in other countries' conflicts, especially as U.S. forces are deployed to over 170 countries around the world.

"I view the use of collective self-defense as yet another unilateral expansion of the

President's Article II authority in a now 17-year counterterrorism campaign that seemingly knows no limits or end," he said. Article II of the Constitution, among other things, lays out the president's role as commander in chief of the military.

Kaine has long advocated a more active congressional role in overseeing foreign military operations and has proposed crafting new legislation to update the 2001 law that has been used as a catchall legal basis for operations targeting al-Qaida, the Taliban. Islamic State and other militant

In a written response to an earlier query from Kaine, the Pentagon said that collective self-defense "is not typically limited to particular groups or individuals committing the hostile act or demonstrating hostile intent.

That would allow the military to attack forces threatening partner troops even when that action would not be permitted otherwise under the 2001 law or other congressional authorizations, the Pentagon told Kaine

Aides said Kaine was concerned that the practice would allow the United States to attack any force threatening hostile action against any troops deemed to be American partners, regardless of whether congressional consent had been secured or what the larger ramifications of that action would be

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#### **MILITARY**

#### 4 sailors accused of sex crimes against minor

BREMERTON, Wash. - Four sailors assigned to Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor have been accused of sex crimes against an underage girl.

The Kitsap Sun reported that the four are all third-class petty officers assigned to submarine commands. Authorities say they engaged in sexual acts in September 2017 in their barracks with a girl who was older than 12 but younger than 16 and that they took photos and video.

The sailors' names have been redacted in documents released by the Navy because no courtmartial has yet been convened. Authorities said they're not sure how the girl came to be on the

Submarine Group Nine spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Mike Smith said Navy officials were notified of the incident after receiving an anonymous report of an unauthorized female in the barracks after hours. A military judge advocate is weighing whether to recommend a court-martial.

#### Federal officials to expand Pocatello base

POCATELLO, Idaho - Federal officials are expanding a firefighting air base in eastern Idaho.

The air base at the Pocatello Regional Airport is busier than ever, as its traditional service area has spread farther into Wyoming, Oregon and Nevada, officials said.

Monday, a pair of DC-10 air tankers, which carry up to 9,400 gallons of retardant, launched from the air base to help contain a fire in Elko, Nev., said Robert Barnes, an aviation officer with the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S Forest Service.

The air base's increasing importance is prompting the Bu-reau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service to build a third "pit" at the Pocatello air base, where aircrafts will refuel and reload flame retardant, within the next couple of years, the Idaho State Journal reported.

#### Navy gets \$2M to study jet engine noise

BREMERTON, Wash. - Funding has been allocated for the U.S. Navy to study and develop technologies that would reduce jet engine noise as it plans to bring more electronic-warfare aircraft to train on a Puget Sound island north of Seattle.

The Kitsap Sun reported the \$675 billion budget for the U.S. Defense Department includes \$2 million for the Navy to address jet noise, a contentious topic for residents on and near Whidbey Island.

The Navy released a final environmental impact statement last week on a plan to bring 36 more EA-18G Growlers for training at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. The Navy is expected to make a final decision on the expanded operation in the next month.

It's not immediately clear when the jet noise study will begin.

From The Associated Press

# Female commander being replaced

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan - Army Maj. Gen. Robin Fontes, who last year assumed the highest post of any female servicemember in the war in Afghanistan, is being replaced as commander of Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, NATO confirmed

NATO's Resolute Support mission in a statement described her departure as "a normal rotation" of leadership, but sources familiar with CSTC-A said they were surprised by the news, as Fontes was earlier expected to remain at the command's helm until next summer.

A U.S. official told Stars and Stripes on Thursday that Fontes would be replaced by Mai. Gen. James Rainev, likely within weeks. Resolute Support could not immediately confirm the timing or the successor's name.

Rainey was assigned to the Pentagon in January as assistant deputy chief of staff for the Army. Before that, he commanded the 3rd Infantry Division. Rainey also served as a deputy commanding general for U.S. Forces-Afghanistan and commander of Bagram Air

CSTC-A, tasked with building Afghanistan's security forces, is considered one of the most important commands in the NATO mission.

Fontes was widely respected among the military and diplomatic communities in Kabul. However, the Afghan security forces her command has helped train still aren't capable of securing the country on their own after 17 years of war. Insurgents hold or contest more of the country's territory than at any time since the 2001 invasion, according to Pentagon and in-

dependent analyses.

The CSTC-A change comes about one month after Gen. Scott Miller took command of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, replacing Gen. John Nicholson.

On Thursday, Gen. Joseph Votel, head of U.S. Central Command, dismissed suggestions that replacing Fontes was part of a new approach to the war by Miller.

I expect that Gen. Miller and the team going forward will con-



tinue to approach this with the same vigor that Gen. Nicholson and Gen. Fontes did," Votel told reporters at the Pentagon by phone from CENT-COM in Tampa. "I do consider this to

be, kind of, a normal rotation of leadership that is taking place," added.

Fontes assumed command of CSTC-A in July 2017. The assignment usually lasts one year, but NATO officials in Kabul told Stars and Stripes in the summer that the two-star general had volunteered to remain for an additional year.

Speaking at a ceremony last month, Fontes expressed satisfaction with being in Afghanistan.

"I have lived and worked in this region for 13 of my 32 professional years in the Army and can tell you with sincerity that there is no other time I would rather be in Afghanistan than right now," she said.

When asked by Stars and Stripes in November about being the war's highest-ranking woman in uniform, Fontes replied that she wanted to be judged based on her work within the command.

Fontes was tasked with assisting Afghan military officials in a deeply patriarchal country. However, both Afghan and U.S. officials spoke of a constructive working relationship throughout the year.

"I know Maj. Gen. Fontes very well, and she was always very cooperative," an Afghan Defense Ministry official told Stars and Stripes when asked about Fontes' departure. He requested to remain anonymous because he had not yet been informed of the decision.

"I just hope her replacement is as good," the official said.

Under Fontes' leadership, CSTC-A has seen the delivery of Afghanistan's first UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and has worked with the Afghanistan Finance Ministry to better show international donors how and where their money is being spent.

However, U.S.-led military and development assistance hasn't thus far ended the stalemate with the Taliban and other insurgents.

In August, a military base in northern Fary ab province fell to the Taliban because troops had run out of ammunition, food and water despite requesting supplies, a U.S. official told Stars and Stripes.

Also in August, Afghan forces battled other Taliban fighters who had launched an attack on the strategic city of Ghazni less than 100 miles from Kabul. The insurgents had pushed deep into the city and U.S. air support was needed to push them back.

Catharine Giordano, Corey Dickstein and Zubair Babakarkhail contributed to this report, wellman, phillip@stripes.com

# Marines beef up Osprey presence in Hawaii

By WYATT OLSON Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii - The Marine Corps continues to extend its reach in the Pacific with the recent relocation of an MV-22 Osprev squadron to Hawaii and a 6.100-mile trans-Pacific flight by eight of the tilt-rotor aircraft.

On Sunday, aviators with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 268 completed a threeday flight from Darwin, Australia, to Marine Corps Base Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii.

VMM-268 completed a similar journey for the first time last year while flying only four Ospreys.

By tilting their rotors, Ospreys can take off, fly and land as helicopters, but they can also be flown at high speeds as fixed-wing

"We were traveling at fixed-wing top rotor airspeeds," said Lt. Col. Richard Alvarez, commander of VMM-268. He piloted one of the Ospreys from Darwin, where they had been deployed for training since April, along with about 1,600 Marines.

That was an average speed of about 288

The flight was done in three legs: Darwin to Guam, then to Wake Island, then to Hawaii. Each leg took five to eight hours, Alvarez

In two legs, the Ospreys flew in smaller divisions of four that are more maneuverable, particularly when aerial C-130 tankers are used for refueling, as was the case in this trans-Pacific flight, he said. In another leg, the eight aircraft flew as one division.

Each Osprey has the capacity to carry 25 Marines, but only the flight crews were aboard the eight aircraft, which had arrived in Darwin aboard a Navy ship.

Alvarez described the trans-Pacific flight



MATTHEW KIRK/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corp.

An MV-22 Osprey with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 268 stands on the flight line at Marine Corps Base Hawaii after completing a trans-Pacific flight from Darwin, Australia.

as further confirmation that the Marine Corns has "the ability to self-deploy in MV-22s anywhere in the world we need to go."

There are now more Ospreys deployable from Hawaii

On Sept. 21, the Marines held a ceremony dedicating the relocation of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 363 to Marine Corps Base Hawaii, as well as the squadron's new hangar built at Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe

Bay.
VMM-363, dubbed The Lucky Red Lions, had been based out of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in San Diego under Marine Aircraft Group 16, 3rd Marine Air Wing "The arrival of a second MV-22B Osprey

squadron to our Hawaii-based Marine Aircraft Group significantly increases our combat capability and allows us to better respond to crises throughout the Indo-Pacific area of responsibility," Col. Stephen Lightfoot, commander of Marine Aircraft Group 24, said in a statement.

The move to Hawaii brings the Osprev squadron about 2,500 miles closer to the Western Pacific

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#### **MILITARY**

# Teddy is tackled in Texas exercise

A giant teddy bear attempted to breach the gate at Sheppard Air Force Base, leaving a trail of stuffing behind.

The spectacle was part of an exercise at the base in Wichita, Texas, said George Woodward, a spokesman for the 82nd Training Wing, in a statement to Task and Purpose.

A video posted on the Facebook page Air Force amn/nco/snco shows the incident, during which the bear waddles toward the gate, performs a few dance moves and then makes a break for it. A call "gate runner, gate runner" goes out on the radio and the bear is tackled.

Sure, the video is funny, but the meaning behind the exercise was

"Think about what we ask of our military and civilian security forces airmen," Woodward said in the statement. "They spend long hours in the heat of the day and the dark of the night defending our bases. We expect them to be aware and ready every moment to respond to any imaginable situ-ation, and possibly make a splitsecond, life-and-death decision on the use of force.'

Even if that force is against an adorable plush bear.

So far, more than 341,000 people have viewed the video of the hear's rush in the direction of the bright lights of the Sheppard Express store. Someone even designed mugs and shirts online to commemorate the occasion.



Screengrab from Facebook

A giant teddy bear attempted to breach the gate at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas as part of an exercise.

### Soldier pleads not guilty to cocaine trafficking charges

From wire reports

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE. Fla. - An Army 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) soldier faces trial next month in U.S. District Court in Pensacola, Fla., on two counts of conspiring in the trafficking of cocaine.

Master Sgt. Daniel J. Gould was indicted last month by a federal grand jury. The indictment was sealed until Tuesday after Gould entered pleas of not guilty. His trial is scheduled for Nov. 13 in Pensacola, according to Amy Alexander, public information officer for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Florida. He could face sentences ranging from 10 years to life on each charge, Alexander said.

Specifically, the first count of the indictment alleges that between Jan. 1 and Aug. 13 Gould "did knowingly and willfully combine, conspire, confederate and agree with other persons to distribute a controlled substance ... containing a detectable amount of cocaine, intending, knowing and having reasonable cause to believe that such a substance would be unlawfully imported into the United States.'

The second count mirrors the

language of the first count, additionally alleging that Gould conspired to distribute the cocaine.

The indictment came a little more than a month after reports surfaced that Gould allegedly had attempted to smuggle cocaine into the U.S. from Colombia. Gould reportedly was arrested after two "heavy bags" filled with nearly 90 pounds of cocaine were intercepted at the U.S. Embassy in Bogota. The "heavy bags" - punching bags used by athletes — reportedly were bound for an aircraft heading to Eglin Air Force Base, headquarters of the 7th Group. They were intercepted by another Special Forces soldier who was suspicious of their contents. Cocaine was discovered after the bags were Xrayed by Colombian officials.

Colombia is part of the 7th Group's area of responsibility, but Gould had been on vacation - not on military duty - before the discovery of the punching bags. He already was back in the U.S. when the bags were intercepted.

According to a 2010 Army news release, Gould was awarded a Silver Star, the nation's third-highest military honor for actions during the 7th Group's 2007-08 deployment to Afghanistan.



U.S. Secretary for Defense Jim Mattis, right, talks to Turkey Defense Minister Hulusi Akar, second right, as Germany Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen, second left, talks to Spain Defense Minister Margarita Robles, left, Thursday, the second day of a meeting of the North Atlantic Council at a gathering of NATO defense ministers at NATO headquarters in Brussels.

# **Mattis:** Secretary mum on consequences

"Russia must return to compliance with the INF treaty or the U.S. will need to respond," Mattis said. "The United States is reviewing options in our diplomacy and defense posture to do just that in concert with our allies.

The new Russian missile, known as the 9M729, has an assessed range of up to 3,400 miles, according to the GlobalSecurity. org website. The INF treaty bans all missiles with a range between 310 and 3.400 miles.

Mattis declined to say which military options were available. but measures that could be considered include shifting more missile defense capabilities to Europe and developing new intermediate range systems if the U.S. decides the treaty is no longer binding.

Kay Bailey Hutchison, the top U.S. envoy to the alliance, and NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg also made statements Tuesday accusing Russia of violating the INF treaty. Russia has denied doing so and has accused the U.S. of violating the treaty by placing its missile defenses in Europe. Washington says those systems are designed to intercept long-range attacks and not directed toward Russia.

Mattis' mention of cyberstrikes at the summit's close referred to allegations aimed at Russia's military intelligence agency. On Thursday, the Netherlands accused the agency, known as the GRU, of targeting the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, an international watchdog group.

The same day, the United Kingdom blamed the GRU and its agents for cyberattacks that targeted political, businesses, media and sports institutions in a global cyberattack campaign.

NATO, which dedicated a large part of its two-day ministerial to cyberdefense talks, condemned Russia for its attacks. While Moscow has denied involvement, Mattis said Russia must face consequences.

"Basically, the Russians got caught with their equipment, with people who were doing it and they've got to pay the piper,' Mattis said. He added that he had seen the evidence and is convinced of Russian culpability.

Mattis was mum on the consequences Russia should face but said there were a range of actions that could be taken and that "it doesn't necessarily equate to some kind of tit-for-tat on cyber.'

The U.S. pledged to increase its cyber support to NATO, announcing in Brussels that it would make American digital weaponry available to member states when needed. "We are ready today to provide cyber support to our allies." Mattis said.

NATO is creating a new cyber operations center, and allies have designated the cyber realm as a military domain on a par with land, sea and air operations.

"Russia must stop this reckless pattern of behavior, including the use of force against its neighbors. attempted interference in election processes and widespread disinformation and campaigns,' Stoltenberg said. "In response, NATO will continue to strengthen its defense and deterrence in the cyber domain.'

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#### US charges Russian intel officers with hacking

BRUSSELS — The Justice Department on Thursday charged seven Russian intelligence officers with hacking anti-doping agencies and other organizations hours after Western officials leveled new accusations against Moscow's GRU military spy agency.

Hours before the U.S. indict-

ment was announced Western

nations accused the GRU of new cybercrimes, with Dutch and British officials labeling the agency "brazen" for allegedly targeting the international chemical weapons watchdog and the investigation into the 2014 downing of a Malaysian Airlines flight over eastern Ukraine.

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# Navy vet held over letters sent to Pentagon and White House

By Corey Dickstein Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A Navy veteran from Utah has admitted to federal authorities that he mailed suspicious packages this week addressed to two top Pentagon officials and to President Donald Trump, Justice Department officials said Thursday.

william Clyde Allen III, 39, who served in the Navy from 1998 to 2002, was arrested Wednesday by FBI agents and local law enforcement at his home in Logan, Utah, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office of Utah. Allen admitted to investigators that he sent envelopes, which security officials initially suspected contained the deadly poison ricin, addressed Trump, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and Adm. John Richardson, the Navy's top officer.

He did not provide a motive for his actions, according to court documents.

The Pentagon on Wednesday said the letters addressed to Mattis and Richardson contained unprocessed castor seeds, the natural material from which ricin is produced. The seeds them selves pose little, if any, threat to humans, according to the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Secret Service,



which intercepted the letter mailed to Trump, declined to comment on the third letter. All three were intercepted Monday, officials said. The letters addressed to the Pentagon never made it into the Defense Department's headquarters, and the envelope to Trump was never in the White House, U.S. officials said. No one was harmed by the envelopes.

Allen was booked Wednesday evening into the Davis County jail in Utah, where he remained Thursday held on a "threat of terrorism" charge without bail, jail records show. The FBI was continuing its investigation Thursday, said an agency spokeswoman who declined further comment on the case. Navy records show Allen enlisted in the service in October 1998 and was discharged in October 2002. He served as a damage control fireman and served aboard the USNS Supply — a fast combat support ship — and the nowdecommissioned USS Detroit, another combat support ship.

Records also show he attained the rank of petty officer third class but eventually left the service as a seaman apprentice, indicating he was reduced at least two ranks before his discharge. It was not clear Thursday what led to the loss in rank.

In 2003, Allen faced drivingunder-the-influence charges in Utah, court records show. In 2004, he was charged in a child sex abuse case involving two girls with whom he had an unspecified "relationship of trust," according to court documents. He later pleaded guilty to lesser neglect and abuse charges and was not ordered to register as a sex offender.

Allen also pleaded guilty to charges of attempted aggravated assault in 2008 and spent more than two years in prison before



Fr. Lucena, (Lacus, Devo) Henria Janes (AD

Law enforcement officers search a house Wednesday in Logan, Utah. A man suspected of mailing ricin to the Pentagon and to President Donald Trump was taken into custody at the scene.

his release in 2011.

The letters addressed to Mattis and Richardson were discovered Monday at the Pentagon's mail sorting center, officials said. The Pentagon quickly quarantined the center, which is on the Pentagon's grounds but is not connected to the headquarters building. No personnel ever were endangered, officials said.

Neither Mattis, who is traveling in Europe for meetings with NATO officials, nor Richardson, the chief of naval operations, were endangered, officials said.

The Herald Journal newspaper of Logan, Utah, reported federal investigators remained at Allen's home through much of Wednesday evening. An explosion was heard from the home's backyard during the search, according to the paper. Local law enforcement said there was no wide threat to the public on Wednesday, the Herald Journal reported.

Ricin is a poison that is naturally found in castor beans. A small amount of exposure to it by inhalation or ingestion can be deadly within three days, according to the CDC.

Information from The Associated Press was used in this report. dickstein.corey@stripes.com Twitter: @CDicksteinDC



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### War/Military



A poster of Syrian President Bashar Assad with Arabic that reads "Welcome in victorious Syria" is displayed on the Lebanon-Syria border in July. Assad recently told a Kuwaiti newspaper that Syria has reached a "major understanding" with other Arab states.

## Assad: 'Understanding' reached with Arab states on 7-year Syria civil war

By SARAH EL DEEB Associated Press

BEIRUT - President Bashar Assad told a little-known Kuwaiti newspaper that Syria has reached "major understanding" with Arab states after years of hostility over the country's civil war.

The interview in the Al-Shahed newspaper, published Wednesday, was Assad's first with a Gulf newspaper since the war began in

Assad doesn't name the Arab countries but says Arab and Western delegations have begun visiting Syria to prepare for the reopening of diplomatic and other missions. Soon the civil war will be over, Assad told the paper's publisher, allowing Syria to resume its pivotal role in the region.

Syria's membership in the 22member Arab League was suspended in the early days of the war, and Arab countries later imposed economic sanctions after they failed to mediate an end to the war.

Saudi Arabia. Oatar and other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council have openly supported opposition groups fighting to overthrow Assad since. Kuwait hosted a number of donors' conferences for aid to Syrians, but it also condemned violence blamed on the Syrian government.

The interview comes on the heels of a surprisingly warm meeting between the Syrian foreign minister and his Bahraini counterpart on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly on Saturday. The meeting turned heads because it featured hugs between the two ministers.

The encounter raised questions about whether the Gulf countries, most of them sworn enemies of Assad's ally Iran, are reconsidering their relations with Damascus as the war winds down.

Assad, embattled for years, is emerging largely victorious after strong support from Russia and Iran. He now controls more than 60 percent of Syria with strong Russian and pro-Iran military support

Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa. the Bahraini foreign minister, later told Saudi-run Al-Arabiya TV that it was not the first meeting with "my brother" the Syrian minister. But he said it was an unplanned meeting, while other planned ones weren't caught on camera.

Al Khalifa said the meeting came at a time of serious Arab efforts to "reclaim" a role in resolving the Syrian crisis.

"This meeting comes at this period that is witnessing positive transformations toward having an effective Arab role in the Syrian issue," Al Khalifa said in the Sunday interview with Al-Arabiya. "Syria is an Arab country Its people are Arabs and what happens there concerns us before any other nation. It is not correct that regional and international countries are looking into the Syrian issue and not us."

Al-Shahed's editor in chief is one of the many members of the extended Kuwaiti royal family.

# **Votel: Battlefield losses** rising for Afghan forces

By ROBERT BURNS Associated Press

Afghan military and police forces had higher numbers of battlefield casualties in a "difficult and bloody summer" of fighting the Taliban insurgency, the American general overseeing the war said Thursday.

Army Gen. Joseph Votel, commander of U.S. Central Command, told reporters at the Pentagon that the Afghan losses are "an area of important focus" for the newly installed U.S. commander in Kabul, Army Gen. Scott Miller. Votel did not say how many Afghan troops have been killed this year but noted that Afghan officials have said the casualties will not deter them

Asked directly whether the number of Afghan casualties had increased this year over 2017, Votel said, "It's my understanding that it is increasing."

At the request of the Afghan government, the U.S. military command in Kabul does not publicly reveal numbers of Afghan combat losses. But Votel's comments suggest the trend is worrisome, even if the Afghan government continues to insist that it can sustain this pace of casualties.

At the end of 2014, U.S. forces stopped taking a direct role in ground combat against the Taliban and shifted to what they call an advise-and-assist role. Since then. Afghan forces have taken Votel did not sav how many Afghan troops have been killed this year but noted that Afghan officials have said the casualties will not deter them.

heavy losses even though they outnumber the Taliban and are supported by U.S. forces. The Taliban benefit from sanctuary in parts of neighboring Pakistan.

Votel said the U.S. was still trying to get Afghan forces to lessen their dependence on what he called "poorly defended," vulnerable checkpoints, which the Taliban regularly and successfully target. For at least six years, U.S. military officials have tried to convince the Afghan authorities that these checkpoints are too difficult to defend and should be abandoned. The Afghans have largely refused, saying these are needed to protect the population.

"When we do look at the casualties that the Afghans are absorbing, we do link them back largely to these more defensive, static positions that they have difficulty supporting," Votel said.

Shortly before Votel began speaking by telephone from his headquarters in Tampa, Fla., Miller's command announced member was killed in action in Afghanistan.

The most recent U.S. combat death had been Sept. 3 when Army Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy A. Bolyard, 42, of Thornton, W.Va., was shot to death by a member of the Afghan national police in Logar province.

The Pentagon says there are about 14,000 American troops in Afghanistan.

A central element of the Trump administration's strategy for pushing the Taliban into peace talks with Kabul is to compel neighboring Pakistan to stop allowing sanctuary for Taliban leaders and to take military action against extremists on its side of the Afghan border, Pakistani officials say they are cooperating on this, but Votel insisted more be done, including a greater effort to force the Taliban to the negotiat-

"We need them to help lower the violence in Afghanistan, and they need to do that by making absolutely sure that there are no instructions, directions or other things coming from Taliban leadership that remains in Pakistan to their fighters on the ground" in Afghanistan, Votel said. "They need to continue to ensure that there can be no movement back and forth and that fighters can't come back into Pakistan to get aid or medical care or other things."

# US servicemember killed in combat action in Afghanistan

Stars and Strines

A U.S. servicemember was killed in combat in Afghanistan on Thursday, NATO and U.S. officials said.

The incident is under investigation, NATO Resolute Support officials said Thursday. They did not release any further details.

"We mourn and honor the sacrifice of our servicemember," said Gen. Scott Miller, Resolute Support and United States Forces-Afghanistan commander, in a statement. "We remain committed."

Gen. Joseph Votel, head of Central Command, told reporters Thursday during a Pentagon teleconference that the death was "not the result of anything else you've seen," after being asked whether the death possibly involved an insider attack.

"The initial reports that I've seen is that this was a result of combat action." Votel said.

The name of the servicemember is being withheld until 24 hours after the notification of next of kin. Last year, 15 U.S. troops were killed in the

There are about 14,000 American servicemembers in Afghanistan, most of whom serve with NATO's train advise and assist mission A smaller portion are involved with the U.S.' separate counterterrorism mission that targets groups like Islamic State and al-Qaida.

news@strines.com

# Afghan officials: Separate bomb blasts kill 5 across country

KABUL, Afghanistan - Afghan officials say at least five civilians have been killed in roadside bomb blasts in separate

Zia Durrani, police spokesman in southern Kandahar province, said two women were killed and 16 others wounded when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb Thursday afternoon in the Zhari

He said 14 of the 16 wounded civilians are women

Attahullah Khogyani, spokesman for the governor of eastern Nangarhar province, said a bomb blast near a nongovernmental organization office killed two people and wounded seven others

In the capital, Kabul, one person was killed when a sticky bomb attached to a vehicle detonated. according to Nasrat Rahimi, deputy spokesman for the Afghan Interior Ministry. He said one was nerson wounded

No one claimed responsibility for the attack.

# Trump salary goes to vet business program

By CLAUDIA GRISALES Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump has donated a portion of his annual salary to establish a new entrepreneurship program for military veterans, White House officials said Wednesday.

The officials said Trump would donate his quarterly salary to the U.S. Small Business Administration, which will use the money to establish an "Emerging Leaders" program solely focused on helping veterans start small businesses after military life.

The president collects an annual salary of \$400,000.

"The president continues to donate his salary on a quarterly basis to further important priorities," White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders announced Wednesday at a news briefing. "Today, President Trump is proud to donate his 2018 second quarter salary to the Small Business Administration."

Since 2008, the Small Business Administration has offered a seven-month "Emerging Leaders Initiative" training program in dozens of U.S. cities, including Sacramento, Calif., Houston and Washington.

The program offers free entrepreneurship education and training for owners of small companies. It has trained more than 5,000 small business owners.

Agency administrator Linda McMahon said the Trump donation would be "put to good use" to create a similar program focused on veterans.

"This is awesome," McMahon said. "This money is going to be used in our veterans program. We are going to establish a sevenmonth intensive training program

month intensive training program
... helping (veterans) transition
from military life into private
sector if they desire to start their
own jobs and their own companies to be entrepreneurs."

grisales.claudia@stripes.com Twitter: @cgrisales <sup>4</sup>We are going to establish a seven-month intensive training program ... helping (veterans) transition from military life into private sector if they desire to start their own jobs and their own companies to be entrepreneurs. <sup>7</sup>

Linda McMahon administrator of the Small Business Administration

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# VA releases hospital performance ratings

By NIKKI WENTLING Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs released the newest performance ratings Wednesday for each of its 146 hospitals, citing improvements in the past year at some of its lowest-performing facilities.

The fiscal 2018 ratings include nine one-star hospitals, the lowest possible, down from 14 hospitals that received one-star ratings in 2017.

The ratings indicate each hospital's quality of care and are based on data such as death rates, patient satisfaction and efficiency. In years past, the VA had withheld the data from the public. In 2016, the performance ratings were released under pressure that followed a USA Today investigation.

Overall, 38 hospitals improved their star ratings in 2018, 40 dropped in the ratings and 68 stayed the same as last year.

Five VA hospitals received onestar ratings in 2017 and 2018: Big Springs and El Paso, Texas; Loma Linda, Calif, Memphis; ad-Phoenix. Four other hospitals were added to the worst-rated this year: Montgomery, Ala; Tucson, Ariz, Washington, D.C.; and Atlanta.

Atlania.

VA hospitals in Dublin, Ga.; Fresno, Calif.; Roseburg and White City, Ore.; Walla Walla, Wash.; Harlingen, Texas; Nash-ville and Murfreesboro, Tenn.; and Biloxi, Miss., improved enough from 2017 to get off the list of lowest-rated hospitals.

Eighteen hospitals received 5 stars in 2018, the best possible. Four of them are located in Pennsylvania.

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#### Lowest-rated VA medical centers

Atlanta Big Spring, Texas El Paso, Texas Loma Linda, Calif Memphis Montgomery, Ala. Phoenix Tucson, Ariz. Washington, D.C.

Source: Department of Veterans Affairs

solid improvements at most of our facilities," VA Secretary Robert Wilkie said in a statement. "There's no doubt that there's still plenty of work to do, but I'm proud of our employees, who work tirelessly to move VA in the right direction for veterans and taxpayers."

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# **Report:** FBI reached out to 10 people; 9 were interviewed

White House spokesman Raj Shah rebuffed that idea, saying, "What critics want is a never-ending fishing expedition into high school drinking." He said the FBI reached out to 10 people and interviewed nine, including "several individuals at the request of the Senate, and had a series of follow-up interviews ... following certain leads.

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While the FBI interviews were to focus on sexual assault allegations, Democrats have also questioned his drinking habits during high school and college and dishonest comments they say he's made about his background. Kavanaugh has said stories of bad behavior while drinking are exaggerated

Grasslev said the FBI could not "locate any third parties who can attest to any of the allegations," and he said there is "no contemporaneous evidence." He provided no specific detail.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has already started a process that will produce a crucial test vote in his polarized chamber Friday on Kavanaugh's fate. Should Republicans get the majority of votes they need - and Vice President Mike Pence is available to cast the tiebreaker, if necessary — that would set up a decisive roll call on his confirmation, likely over the weekend.

"Senators ought to wipe away the muck from all the mudslinging and politics and look at this nomination with clear eyes," Grassley said, echoing accusations against Democrats that McConnell has been making. He added, "It's time to vote. I'll be voting to confirm Judge Kavanaugh

Three women have accused Kavanaugh of sexual misconduct in separate incidents in the 1980s. Kavanaugh, 53, now a judge on the powerful District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals, has denied the claims

The White House received the FBI report around 3 a.m. Thursday.

President Donald Trump weighed in hours later in a tweet in which he denounced what he called "the harsh and unfair treatment" of Kavanaugh. "This great life cannot be ruined by mean" and "despicable Democrats and totally uncorroborated allegations!"

Democratic Sen. Tammy Duckworth, of Illinois, told reporters Thursday that time slots for reading the FBI file are so full that senators are being told they might have to wait until Friday to read it. "They're so swamped," she said.

The report arrived at a Capitol palpably tense over the political stakes of the nomination fight and from aggressive anti-Kavanaugh protesters who have rattled and reportedly harassed senators. Feeding the anxiety was an unusually beefy presence of the U.S. Capitol Police, who were keeping demonstrators and frequently reporters at arm's length by forming wedges around lawmakers walking through corridors.

Barring leaks, it was unclear how much of the FBI report, if any, would be made public. While senators from both sides have expressed support for revealing at least parts of the findings, FBI background checks on nominees are supposed to remain confidential

With Republicans clinging to a razorthin 51-49 Senate majority and five senators - including three Republicans - still publicly undeclared, the conservative jurist's prospects of Senate confirmation could hinge largely on the file's contents.

The three undecided GOP senators rebuked Trump for mocking one accuser, Christine Blasey Ford, by mimicking her responses to questions at last week's dramatic Senate Judiciary Committee

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, told reporters that Trump's lampooning of Ford at a Tuesday night Mississippi campaign rally was "just plain wrong." Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, called it "wholly in-appropriate and in my view unacceptable," and Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., said on NBC's 'Today" show that the remarks were "kind of appalling."

Those senators, along with Democrats Heidi Heitkamp, of North Dakota, and Joe Manchin, of West Virginia, have yet to declare how they will vote.

Trump drew laughs Tuesday with his rendition of how Ford answered questions at last week's hearing. "I had one beer

 that's the only thing I remember," he stated inaccurately.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said Trump's insults marked a "new low."

Underscoring rising tensions, Democrats suggested that previous FBI background checks of Kavanaugh may have unearthed misconduct by the nominee.

Democrats wrote to Grassley challenging a Tuesday tweet by GOP aides saying prior investigations never found "a whiff of ANY issue — at all — related in any way to inappropriate sexual behavior or alcohol abuse." Democrats wrote that the GOP tweet contained information that is "not

Committee Republicans tweeted in response that their prior tweet was "completely truthful" and accused Democrats of "false smears."

The California psychology professor has testified that a drunken Kavanaugh sexually abused her in a locked room at a high school party in the 1980s and has said she believed he was trying to rape her.

The FBI interviewed several people, including three who Ford has said attended a 1982 high school gathering in suburban Maryland where she says Kavanaugh's attack occurred, plus another Kavanaugh friend. The agency has also spoken to a second woman, Deborah Ramirez, who has claimed Kavanaugh exposed himself to her at a Yale party when both were freshmen.

# Kavanaugh tensions prompt security boost at Capitol

By MATTHEW DALY Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The impassioned fight over whether to confirm Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court has led to heightened security at the Capitol, with some senators using police escorts to shield them from protesters eager to confront them.

Capitol police have arrested dozens of people in recent days for unlawfully demonstrating in Senate office buildings. Police have stepped up their presence in Capitol hallways, in some cases blocking news reporters and the public from approaching lawmakers.

Sen. Susan Collins, a Maine Republican who is a key undecided vote on Kavanaugh, was escorted out of a hearing Wednesday by three police officers. She ignored questions from reporters. Police later threatened to clear a public hallway outside her office in the Dirksen Senate Office Building and physically blocked reporters from approaching Collins as she left the office to return to the Capitol for a vote.

A spokeswoman for Collins de-



Sen, Susan Collins, center, R-Maine, is escorted by U.S. Capitol Police on Capitol Hill in Washington on Wednesday.

clined to comment on her secu-

The stepped-up police presence comes as senators - especially Republicans - have expressed unease over protesters who have confronted them at their Senate offices, restaurants, airports and even their homes. Personal information about some lawmakers also has been released online.

Capitol police said late Wednesday they had charged a former Senate staffer with posting priidentifying information about one or more senators on the

Jackson Cosko, 27, of Washing-

was charged with making public restricted personal information, unauthorized access of a government computer and other crimes. According to Legistorm. a website that tracks lawmakers and Capitol Hill staffers, Cosko worked for Democratic Sen. Maggie Hassan, of New Hampshire, from January 2017 to May 2018 as a legislative correspondent/ systems administrator.

A spokesman for Hassan declined to comment Wednesday night

Before the arrest was announced, Republicans discussed security matters behind closed doors earlier this week at a private lunch.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said in a floor speech Wednesday that senators will not be intimidated out of doing their jobs.

McConnell cited an incident in which Texas Sen. Ted Cruz was forced to leave a restaurant last week and said another senator "reported having protesters physically block his car door. And some have seen organized farleft protesters camp out at their homes" and offices.

"There is no chance in the world they're going to scare us out of doing our duty," McConnell said. He said the Senate will be voting this week on Kavanaugh's nomination

Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., said there's "a lot of unprecedented activity taking place" because of the pitched battle over Kavanaugh, who would likely provide the decisive fifth vote for a conservative majority on the nine-member

The FBI is investigating several allegations of sexual misconduct by Kavanaugh, including Christine Blasey Ford's accusation that he assaulted her in high school. Kavanaugh has denied the

"People have been acting out in ways that really is inappropriate," Corker said Wednesday. The polarity we have right now and the way people are responding to it - let's face it, the nation is very, very divided. People are resentful and angry.'

Corker, who is retiring in January after two terms in the Senate. said, "This is the worst it's been since I've been here."

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# **Probes of Trump taxes could bring large fines**

By BERNARD CONDON AND STEPHEN BRAUN Associated Press

NEW YORK — Though President Donald Trump insists he did nothing wrong on his taxes, experts say he could be on the hook for tens of millions of dollars in civil fines if state and federal authorities substantiate a New York Times report that found he and his family cheated the IRS for decades

The statute of limitations for bringing criminal charges has long run out, but civil cases have no such limits, and the financial penalties could be staggering. Civil fraud charges for intentionally underpaying taxes, as the Times alleged the Trump family did, could include a penalty of up to 75 percent of the unpaid federal taxes and double the unpaid state amount, experts said.

The penalties "could be substantial, and if the allegations are proven in court, they should be levied," said Norman Eisen, chairman of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington and former chief ethics counsel in the Obama administration.

The New York tax department said it is studying the Times' 15,000-word report and "vigorously pursuing all appropriate avenues of investigation." New York City also said it would investigate. A spokesman for the Internal Revenue Service declined to comment

Trump tweeted that the news-paper did "a very old, boring and often-told hit piece on me.

The White House dismissed the report as a "misleading at-tack against the Trump family by the failing New York Times," but snokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the newspaper got

one thing right: Trump's father not only did deals with his son but heaped praise on him by saying "everything he touched turned to

A lawyer for Trump, Charles J. Harder, told the Times that there was no "fraud or tax evasion" and that parts of the report were "extremely inaccurate."

The Times said Trump re-ceived at least \$413 million from his father over the decades, much of that through dubious tax maneuvers, including outright fraud. The report contradicts Trump's portraval of himself as a self-made billionaire who started with just a \$1 million loan from his father.

Tax law experts expressed skepticism that the IRS would mount any civil investigation. The main reason, they said, is that the Times account says IRS officials already have conducted extensive audits of the estate left

by Trump's parents.
"That ship has sailed," said Mark W. Everson, who was IRS commissioner during President George W. Bush's second term and is now vice chairman of AlliantGroup, a Houston-based corporate tax advisory firm. He added, "I would be concerned were the service to reach back that far in time, given that it could only be doing so because of the person's current position.'

In addition to maneuvers aimed at avoiding estate taxes, the Times reported that the president's father, Fred Trump, paid no fed-eral gift taxes on seven buildings that were transferred to Donald Trump and his siblings.

That opens another possible avenue of investigation, said Beth Shapiro Kaufman, a Caplin & Drysdale tax lawyer and a former Treasury official.

There is typically a three-year statute of limitations on federal gift inquiries, but that doesn't apply when a gift is made without being reported to the government. And if the donor is dead, the IRS would have the ability to go after the beneficiary of the gift for unpaid taxes, Kaufman said.

In New York, tax officials already had been looking into whether Trump or his charitable foundation misrepresented their tax liability. State law would allow them to seek civil penalties if they can show someone intentionally sought to evade taxes, even decades ago.

# Trump adviser: GOP candidates should embrace president

By ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The White House has a message for vulnerable House Republicans tiptoeing around President Donald Trump: Get on board or start packing.

The warning comes in a memo from White House political director Bill Stepien, who argues that GOP candidates who try to dis-tance themselves from the president are only doing themselves harm in the upcoming midterm elections.

The memo, dated Monday and obtained by The Associated Press, serves as a response to a grim White House briefing by pollsters for the Republican National Committee last month regarding GOP midterm prospects. It also previews some of Trump's upcoming travel just as White House officials are eagerly noting the president's efforts to help beleaguered House candidates, not just contenders in more prominent Senate races.

Midterm elections are traditionally difficult for the parties incumbent presidents, and this year is proving to be no exception. The GOP is facing down considerable Democratic enthusiasm as it looks to retain control of the House and the Senate. But the White House memo argues that public perceptions about whether the country is on the right track temper the probability of a Democratic wave. So do redrawn congressional districts, which have reduced the number of contested

"With Americans supporting the direction of the country at historically high levels - but with Republican voters clearly lagging in enthusiasm - the path forward is clear; Republican candidates need to closely, clearly and boldly align themselves with the policies that have provided Americans with this historic level of directional optimism," Stepien

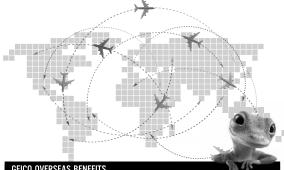
The White House memo suggests that countering the enthu-siasm gap is where Trump can make up the difference - for those candidates willing to take his help. Republicans who don't talk about Trump or his accomplishments, the White House warns, will make a tough situation a whole lot tougher.

Trump has used campaign rallies in an effort to boost Republican turnout, encouraging the voters he drew to the polls in 2016 to support more staid traditional lawmakers. Both parties largely view the 2018 contest as a race to turn out party faithful rather than an effort to attract new voters. At a rally in Southaven, Miss., on Tuesday, Trump told voters, "Pretend I'm on the ballot."

He added, "This is also a referendum about me and the disgusting gridlock they'll put this country through."

That message is consistent with the advice given last month to White House staff by GOP pollster Neil Newhouse, who said Republicans need to warn of the consequences if Democrats gain control of either chamber of Congress. He told White House officials that Trump could appeal to moderates and independents by emphasizing that a Democratic majority would be outside the mainstream on issues like abolishing Immigration and Customs Enforcement and pushing government-funded health care

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Tyler Tjomsland, The (Spokane, Wash.) Spokesman-Review/AP

Vice President Mike Pence gestures to the crowd Tuesday at Signature Flight Support at Spokane International Airport before heading into Spokane, Wash.

# Pence: China is interfering in US policies and politics

By ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Vice President Mike Pence is accusing China of trying to undermine President Donald Trump as the administration deploys tough, new rhetoric over Chinese trade, economic and foreign policies.

In prepared remarks for an appearance Thursday at the Hudson Institute, Pence said China is using its power in "more proactive and coercive ways to interfere in the domestic policies and politics of the United States."

"China wants a different American president," Pence said.

Pence's speech came a week after Trump accused China during a meeting of the U.N. Security Council of interfering in American elections to help his Democratic rivals.

"Regrettably, we found that China has been attempting to interfere in our upcoming 2018 election," Trump said. "They do not want me, or us, to win because I am the first president ever to challenge China on trade." As proof, Trump later referenced a paid advertising insert in The Des Moines Register by Chinese government-affiliated entities.

In the prepared remarks provided by his office, Pence charged that China is targeting "industries and states that would play an important role in the 2018 election" as it responds to Trump's protectionist trade tariffs on China. "By one estimate, more than 80 percent of U.S. counties targeted by China voted for President Trump in 2016; now China wants to turn these voters against our administration." Pence said.

U.S. intelligence agencies assess that Russia interfered in the 2016 presidential election to boost Trump over his Democratic rival Hillary Clinton through hacking and releasing sensitive documents and social media manipulation.

and social media manipulation.

Trump signed an executive order in September authorizing sanctions against those found to be involved in election interfer-

ence, but U.S. officials have said repeatedly they have not seen nearly the same level of activity by Russia and others in the midterms as in 2016.

Much of Pence's remarks are meant to inform the public of what the U.S. government terms as China's covert and overt influence campaign.

Since Trump took office last year, his administration has escalated pressure on China, most recently with several rounds of tit-for-tat economic trade tariffs on hundreds of billions in goods Trump's first national security strategy released last year labeled China a'revisionist power"

alongside Russia. In his prepared remarks, Pence quoted an assessment from the U.S. intelligence community that "China is targeting U.S., state and local governments and officials to exploit any divisions between federal and local levels on policy. It's using wedge issues, like trade tariffs, to advance Beijing's political influence."

# US ends '55 treaty with Iran in wake of UN court ruling

By Matthew Lee Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In response to a U.N. court order that the U.S. lift sanctions on Iran, the Trump administration said Wednesday it was terminating a decades-old treaty affirming friendly relations between the two countries. The largely symbolic gesture highlights deteriorating relations between Washington and Tehran.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said withdrawing from the 1955 Treaty of Amity was long overdue and followed Iran "groundlessly" bringing a complaint with the International Court of Justice challenging U.S. sanctions on the basis that they were a violation of the pact.

Meanwhile, national security adviser John Bolton said the administration also was pulling out of an amendment to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations that Iran or others, notably the Palestinians, could use to sue the U.S. at The Hague-based ribunal. Bolton told reporters at the White House that the provision violates U.S. sovereignty.

"The United States will not sit idly by as baseless politicized claims are brought against us," Bolton said.

He cited a case brought to the court by the "so-called state of Palestine" challenging the move of the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem as the main reason for withdrawing.

Bolton, who last month unleashed a torrent of criticism against the International Criminal Court, noted that previous Republican administrations had pulled out of various international agreements and bodies over "politicized cases." He said the administration would review all accords that might subject the U.S. to prosecution by international courts or panels.

Earlier, Pompeo denounced

the Iranian case before the U.N. court as "meritless" and said the Treaty of Amity was meaningless and absurd.

"The Iranians have been ignoring it for an awfully long time; we ought to have pulled out of it decades ago," he told reporters at the State Department.

The little-known treaty with Iran was among numerous such ones signed in the wake of World War II as the Truman and Eisenhower administrations tried to assemble a coalition of nations to counter the Soviet Union. Like many of the treaties, this one was aimed at encouraging closer economic relations and regulating diplomatic and consular ties.

Its first article reads, "There shall be firm and enduring peace and sincere friendship between the United States of America and Iran."

The treaty survived the 1979 overthrowing of the Shah in Iran's Islamic revolution and the subsequent hostage crisis that crippled American-Iranian relations for decades.

But amid a broader push to assert U.S. sovereignty in the international arena and after pulling out of the Iran nuclear deal this year, the administration determined that the court case made the treaty irrelevant.

Pompeo said the ruling was a "useful point for us to demonstrate the absolute absurdity" of the treaty.

The court case is legally binding, but Pompeo said the administration would proceed with sanctions enforcement with existing exceptions for humanitarian and flight-safety transactions.

At the same time, he criticized the ruling, saying, "We're disappointed that the court failed to recognize that it has no jurisdiction to issue any order relating to these sanctions measures with the United States."

# Judge blocks US from ending protections for some immigrants By ROBERT JABLON rary protected status for people meeting about immigration at the remain in the U.S. until the situ Many have children who were

AND SUDHIN THANAWALA Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A judge on Wednesday blocked the Truma administration from ending protections that allowed immigrants from four countries to live and work legally in the U.S., saying the move would cause "irrepanable harm and great hardship."

U.S. District Judge Edward Chen in San Francisco granted a request for a preliminary injunction against the administration's decision to discontinue tempofrom Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti and El Salvador. The judge said there is evidence that "President (Donald) Trump

that "President (Donald) Trump harbors an animus against nonwhite, non-European aliens which influenced his ... decision to end the TPS designation."

The ruling cited Trump's 2015 campaign speech in which he characterized Mexican immigrants as drug dealers and rapists, his call to bar Muslims from entering the U.S. and his vulgar reference to African countries during a White House in January.
It's the latest case in which

judges have cited Trump's own comments to rule against his immigration policies. His words have been turned against him in lawsuits over decisions to separate families at the border, to end legal protections for young immigrants and to ban people from some Muslim-majority countries. Temporary protected status

is granted to countries ravaged by natural disasters or war and lets citizens of those countries remain in the U.S. until the situation improves back home. About 300,000 people have received those protections. The ruling said the government

failed to show the harm of continuing the 20-year-old program and that the plaintiffs established how uprooting those immigrants could hurt the local and national economies.

"Beneficiaries who have lived, worked, and raised families in the United States (many for more than a decade), will be subject to removal." Chen wrote. born in the U.S. and could be faced with the choice of "bringing their children with them (and tearing them away from the only country and community they have known) or splitting their families apart," the ruling said. The lawsuit from immigrants

who have received the protections alleges the administration's decision was motivated by racism.

Justice Department spokesman Devin O'Malley said the ruling "usurps the role of the executive

# Largest Ohio Catholic diocese to expand list of abusive priests

By John Seewer Associated Press

Ohio's largest Roman Catholic diocese will join three other dioceses in the state and will release a list of priests who have been removed from their posts because of sexual abuse and misconduct allegations.

The Diocese of Cleveland's list will include the names of abusive priests, even if they are now dead, church officials said Tuesday.

Since 2002, the diocese has been announcing the names of clerics removed from ministry because of sex abuse allegations, said diocesan spokesman Jim Armstrong. Its website includes 29 names, with some of the allegations going back decades. "It would be wrong to suggest

that the Diocese of Cleveland has not committed to release the names of clerics accused of sexually abusing a minor or that it desires to keep secret the names of such clerics," Armstrong said.

The new names to be added will go back as far as the diocese's records permit, Cleveland.com reported. The diocese hopes to release an updated list very soon, Armstrong said.

Three Õhio dioceses in recent weeks announced plans to release lists of priests who have been removed from ministry. The action comes after a lengthy Pennsylvania grand jury report that in August listed the names of more than 300 priests and outlined the details of sexual abuse allegations.

The Diocese of Columbus said last week it would release a list in the next few months that will include the names of clergy who have been credibly accused of abuse, whether they are living or dead.

The Youngstown diocese and Steubenville's diocese also have committed to releasing the names of abusive priests.

The two remaining dioceses in Ohio — Cincinnati and Toledo — say they already make it a practice to release the names of priests who have been removed, although it's unclear how far back those lists reach. The Cleveland diocese is Ohio's largest, with nearly 700,000 members.

It provided Cuyahoga County prosecutors all relevant files during a grand jury investigation similar to Pennsylvania's in 2002, Armstrong has said. Unlike in Pennsylvania, prosecutors in Cleveland never produced a report about the grand jury's findings.

A 2003 court decision in Cuyahoga County denying a request to release the records presented to the grand jury said prosecutors had identified more than 1,000 possible victims of sexual abuse and 496 possible offenders, including 143 priests. Sixty four off the priests were living in the Cleveland area at the time.

# Mo. down to 1 abortion clinic amid legal battle

By Summer Ballentine Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.— Missouri is down to one clinic providing abortions Wednesday after the only other clinic in the state that performs the procedure failed to adhere to new state requirements and its license expired.

The Columbia clinic's abortion license expired Tuesday, Planned Parenthood Great Plains spokeswoman Emily Miller said.

Federal appeals court judges also ruled last month that Missouri can enforce a requirement that doctors must have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals before they can perform abortions. The judges issued a mandate Monday for that rule to officially take effect.

The Columbia Planned Parenthood clinic has been unable to secure physician privileges or find a doctor with those privileges after a panel of medical staff at University of Missouri Health Care voted to stop offering those privileges altogether in 2015 amid a Republican-led legislative investigation on abortion in the state. Miller said the clinic canceled

Miner said the clinic canceted abortions scheduled for Wednesday in Columbia, which would have been the first since the mandate was issued. The clinic continues to provide other health care services.

"We are unable to provide abortion services now, so we've been working with patients who were on the schedule for today for abortion appointments to let them know what their alternatives are," Miller said.

Women seeking abortions can go to Planned Parenthood's Louis clinic — which is now the only facility in Missouri where abortions can be performed — or travel to neighboring states, she said. Planned Parenthood has argued in court filings that the additional distance women will need to travel to the clinic on the far eastern border of the state or receive abortions will be burdensome and could make the procedure inaccessible to some

Miller said they're hoping the state will issue another abortion license soon.



Carr Barrana / \

A forensics team member on Wednesday exits the crime scene where several members of law enforcement were shot in Florence, S.C.

# Suspect in officers' shooting in SC is competitive rifleman

By Jeffrey Collins and Meg Kinnard Associated Press

FLORENCE, S.C. — A Vietnam veteran who bragged online about maintaining his target-shooting skills was being held Thursday in the shooting of seven law enforcement officers, one of whom died, as deputies tried to serve a search warrant at his home.

Authorities said Frederick Hopkins opened fire on the deputies from inside the home and held children hostage while shooting long-range at other officers who rushed to the suburban neighborhood.

The sheriff department's armored personnel carrier was brought in to recover the wounded during Wednesday's two-hour standoff, and the shooter finally released the children as he was taken into custody, authorities said.

"Officers went there unknowing the firepower the suspect had," Florence County Sheriff Kenney Boone said at a news conference.

"Fire was being shot all over. The way this suspect was positioned, his view of fire was several hundred yards. So he had an advantage. The officers couldn't get to the ones who were down."

Records show Hopkins, 74, is a disabled Vietnam veteran and a disbarred lawyer who has faced several charges in recent years, starting with a 2014 count of disorderly conduct.

Authorities have not described what weapons were involved, but Hopkins apparently owned several guns, including an M14 rifle. A 2014 post on his Facebook page said he celebrated his 70th birth-

day at a shooting range by repeatedly firing his M14, set up exactly like the one he used in Vietnam.

"I have been shooting competitively since 1984 and lovin' it. I just love the smell of gunpowder in the mormin's," said the post. Other posts from 2016 show images of rifles set up on what looks like a range, and say he was the "South Carolina 3-Gun Silhouette Champion for 2011."

The violence stunned people in the area, where many have been dealing with record flooding from Hurricane Florence. Both the sheriff and the police chief cried as they spoke to reporters after the standoff.

The slain officer, Terrence Carraway, 52, of Darlington, had just been honored for his 30 years of service with the Florence Police Department.

"I want you to pray for the fam-

"I want you to pray for the family who lost the bravest police officer I have ever known," said his chief, Allen Heidler.

WIS-TV reported Thursday that Florence County Chief Deputy Glenn Kirby said Hopkins was hospitalized with a head injury and was unable to speak with officers. WPDE-TV reported Hopkins fell at the scene.

Kirby also said that the search warrant involved an accusation that a 27-year-old person at the home sexually assaulted a foster child who lives in the home

Three Florence County deputies were wounded while trying to serve the warrant about 4 p.m. Wednesday. Officers from all over arrived to help, and the suspect ultimately shot four Florence city police officers, one fatally, Heidler said.

Boone credited his department's military equipment for enabling them to pull the wounded from the field of fire.

"Thanks to our MRAP armored personnel carrier, we made sure all the officers that were shot were protected and brought for medical attention," he said.

Officials did not identify the wounded officers or describe their conditions.

Authorities said the shootings happened in Vintage Place, an upscale neighborhood in the western part of the city.

Bobby Goin stood outside, waiting for police to let him back to his home, where his wife and granddaughter could hear the grunshots

"Surprised is probably an understatement," said Goin, who has lived in the neighborhood for 20 years. "The worst thing that goes on around here is that someone runs a stop sign and it gets posted on Facebook."

Condolences and outpourings of support rolled in.

President Donald Trump tweeted his "thoughts and prayers," saying "We are forever grateful for what our Law Enforcement Officers do 24/7/365."

"This is simply devastating news from Florence," Gov. Henry McMaster tweeted. "The selfless acts of bravery from the men and women in law enforcement is real, just like the power of prayer is real."

This is the second shooting of multiple police officers in South Carolina this year. In January, a former banker shot four officers in York County, killing one, after his wife called 911 to report he beat her. Christian McCall, 47, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to life without parole.

### Candidates in Maine aim for civility

By Marina Villeneuve Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Maine - Maine's outgoing firebrand Republican governor has railed against his perceived opponents with fury and gusto over an eight-year term marked by profanity-laced controversy and a failed impeachment attempt. The four candidates running to succeed the governor who calls himself "Donald Trump before Donald Trump became popular" are promising a more collaborative approach.

Candidates agree that term-limited Gov. Paul LePage steadied finances in this aging, rural and economically stagnant state. There's also unanimity that the governor's office needs a change of tone after the combative leadership style of LePage, who challenged a Democrat to a duel, told an NAACP chapter to "kiss my butt," and talked about black drug dealers who impregnate "young, white" girls. Democratic Attorney General

Janet Mills, a longtime LePage opponent, hopes to be Maine's first female governor. Republican Shawn Moody wants to con-tinue LePage's policies but with a more open approach. Two independents, Alan Caron and Terry Hayes, are also running.

So far, the race is heavy on advertising, light on fireworks.

"It's supposed to be a highly energetic year," said Caron, a communications and economic development consultant and for-mer political consultant. "I just don't see it right now. Maybe people will awaken soon."

National Democratic groups hoping that voters upset by President Donald Trump will flip Maine in November are pouring millions of dollars into a race that's largely played out in ads since the June primary, for which fewer than four in 10 Mainers showed up. Just one poll showing a dead heat between Mills and Moody has been released, though candidates have a slew of public debates scheduled in the weeks ahead.

New Gloucester resident Heather Magno, 40, said she's still figuring out whom to vote for, though she had leaned toward Moody. Magno, an operations professional, said though LePage has lacked "tact" at times, she's appreciated his anti-welfare fraud efforts

"I don't want to see the system abused," Magno said.

Her co-worker Meghan Mc-Clay, 33, said she's voting for Mills because she just wants to see a Democrat in office. She said Mainers outside of Portland are struggling, and she's tired of seeing LePage's "blunt or aggressive" antics representing Maine on national news

'I find it kind of embarrassing. I think a lot of people feel that way," McClay said of Standish.

Mainers appear lukewarm on LePage and mixed on Trump, who won a historic split electoral vote from Maine's more rural 2nd congressional district.



# **Women get financial help** in pursuing MeToo cases

By DAVID CRARY Associated Press

NEW YORK - A dollar store cashier from Brooklyn. An aspiring singer shunned by Nashville's country music establishment.

Thanks to a \$22 million legal fund, they've now teamed up with top-notch lawvers to pursue #MeToo-style sex harassment cases that they otherwise couldn't have afforded

In its early phases, the #MeToo movement was epitomized by professional women from the worlds of movie-making, media and politics who spoke out about sexual harassment. One year after its birth, as the movement remains vibrant, there are growing resources to help financially struggling women.

The most ambitious initiative is the Time's Up Legal Defense Fund. Since its launch in January by women from the entertainment industry, more than 780 attorneys have signed up for its legal net-work, and more than 3,550 people have asked for help. Of the \$22 million contributed to the fund by more than 21,000 donors, almost \$4 million has been committed already to more than 50 cases.

Overall, about 40 percent of those seeking assistance are women of color and two-thirds are low-income. Several dozen different employment sectors figure in the complaints, ranging from construction and food services to education and the military.

Here's a look at two pending

#### The cashier

Under any circumstances, life would be challenging for Saturni-na Plasencia. At 43, she's a single mother of three daughters, one of them just three weeks old, and has little prospect of advancing bevond low-wage employment.

But her circumstances worsened dramatically over the past 18 months, after she started a 30hours-a-week job as cashier at a dollar store near her apartment in Brooklyn. According to a complaint filed with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Plasencia endured sustained sexual harassment by her general manager, who insisted she date him and decreased her working hours in retaliation because she spurned him.

Plasencia said the situation deteriorated further in early February, when she told her boss that she was pregnant.

He exclaimed angrily, "The baby could have been mine," and subsequently reduced her schedule to 12 hours a week, Plasencia said. Later that month, Plasencia said she was berated and manhandled by a customer but received no support from her boss. She quit and remains unemployed.

Plasencia said she knows other women who were sexually harassed at work but were too scared to take action. She decided to pursue a legal case at the urging of a doctor and social worker at the hospital where she received prenatal care. "I used to put up with everything," she said. "Now I say, 'Don't be scared. Speak up."

#### The singer

Katie Armiger signed her first record deal at age 15; by the time she was 20 she had a top-10 album. Now, she says she's being shunned after speaking out about sexual harassment in the country music And as she runs short of funds

she faces a lawsuit from her former record label. Cold River Records, alleging that her comments violated a nondisparagement clause signed in 2016 after she left Cold River. The Time's Up fund is helping

Armiger fight back by helping to finance both her defense and a countersuit contending that such clauses should not be enforced because of the harm they cause in bottling up information of public interest. Armiger's lawyer, Alex Little,

said the case may drag on for months, at a cost that could run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. He said the fund's support will enable his team to recruit multiple expert witnesses to help make the strongest possible arguments.

Armiger, now 27, has made the rounds of Nashville's music publishing companies in hopes of resuming her career, winning occasional expressions of sympathy but no offers of a deal.

"They're too scared, too hesitant to work with me," she said. "I'm damaged goods because I broke with them and came forward with

my story." Earlier this year, Armiger testified in the Tennessee legislature about harassment she experienced in her music career.

"I was a teenager dealing with radio programmers touching me under tables at industry events and making inappropriate sexual remarks," Armiger said. "I was instructed not only to tolerate it, but to encourage it.

As the dueling lawsuits unfold, Armiger has enrolled in a community college, studying sociology. She's unsure what the future holds for, professionally.

"Ât this point, I'm not sure if Nashville is a place where I even could pursue a career, at least in country music," she said. "There aren't systems in place to protect

# Alaska oil check program in balance

By BECKY BOHRER Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska - Tension over changes to Alaska's famed oil wealth checks hangs over this year's governor's race, threaten-ing Gov. Bill Walker's chances for re-election.

For decades, residents have shared in the state's oil wealth, eagerly anticipating the much-hyped reveal of the annual check's amount and dreaming about how they'd use their portion. The checks go to every man, woman and child who meets residency requirements, peaking at \$2,072 in 2015.

But since 2016, the excitement has been muted and, for some, replaced with anger as Walker and state legislators capped the payout in response to what had become a multibillion-dollar state budget deficit.

This year's \$1,600 check — or \$6,400 for a family of four — being distributed Thursday is nothing to sniff it. But the payout, by some revised estimates, would have been about \$2,980 — or \$11,920 for a family of four — if it had not

been capped. Walker, an independent elected in 2014, stands by his decision to halve the amount available for checks in 2016, when oil was in the \$40-a-barrel range and lawmakers were deadlocked on addressing a deficit deepened by low prices. But it could cost him re-election.

While some Alaskans defend his decision as politically courageous and a way to preserve the program for the future, others have cast him as a thief. The check, along with crime and the economy, are major issues in this vear's governor's race.

There are people who say they're upset, "but let's see if they vote," said Juanita Cassellius, who is with a group that supports putting the original formula for calculating the dividend into the state constitution.

The annual dividend checks

were widely seen as sacrosanct until Walker halved them in 2016, a move upheld by Alaska's highest court. That opened the door for lawmakers, who had burned through billions of dollars in savings before this year deciding to use earnings from the oil wealth fund, the Alaska Permanent Fund, to help pay for state government. Dividends also are paid with fund earnings.

Lawmakers capped the check at \$1,100 last year. This year's dividend amount was set by what could pass the politically divided state House, not by the formula in law, which some argued would be fiscally reckless to adhere to.

The dividend program's future remains unsettled. As it stands, the check will have to compete with schools roads troopers and other services paid using fund



PHOTOS BY DAN ELLIOTT/AP

Tom Chart, director of the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, checks a tank Tuesday containing a razorback sucker fish at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office in Lakewood,

# Another rare Colorado River fish pulled from brink of extinction

By Dan Elliott Associated Press

DENVER — Another rare Colorado River fish has been pulled back from the brink of extinction, the second comeback this year for a species unique to the Southwestern U.S.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plans to announce Thursday that it will recommend reclassifying the ancient and odd-looking razorback sucker from endangered to threatened, meaning it is still at risk of extinction but the danger is no longer immediate.

The Associated Press was briefed on the plans before the official announcement.

Hundreds of thousands of razorbacks once thrived in the Colorado River and its tributaries, which flow across seven states and Mexico.

By the 1980s they had dwindled to about 100. Researchers blame non-native predator fish that attacked and ate the razorbacks and

dams that disrupted their habitat.

Their numbers have bounced



sucker fish swims in a tank.
back to between 54,000 ar

back to between 54,000 and 59,000 today, thanks to a multi-million-dollar effort that enlisted the help of hatcheries, dam operators, landowners, native American tribes and state and federal agencies.

"It's a work in progress," said Tom Chart, director of the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program. "We get more fish out in the system, they're showing up in more places, they're spawning in more locations."

Chart's program oversees the

campaign to restore the razorback sucker and three other fish, all of them found only in the Colorado River system.

In March, the Fish and Wildlife Service recommended changing the humpback chub from endangered to threatened. It takes 18 to 24 months to complete the process, including a public comment period.

The razorback sucker's name comes from a sharp-edged, keel-like ridge along its back behind its head. Chart thinks the ridge may have evolved to help the fish stay stable in the turbulent waters of the Colorado.

The fish can grow up to 3 feet long and live up to 40 years.

Razorbacks have been around for between 3 million and 5 million years, but trouble arrived as the population expanded in the Southwest. State and federal agencies began introducing game fish into the Colorado without realizing they would devour the native fish. Chart said.

### Track Palin must spend 1 year in custody

By RACHEL D'ORO
Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The oldest son of former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin will spend a year in custody after a judge ruled Wednesday that allegations of hitting a woman on the head disqualified him from a therapeutic program for veterans tied to a separate assault case.

Track Palin, 29, has been accused of three attacks on people close to him over the past few years, the most recent coming last week against a female acquaintance. Palin, an Army veteran who served a year in Iraq, entered a program intended to rehabilitate veterans after he was arrested in an assault on his father less than a year ago.

Anchorage District Court Judge David Wallace told Track Palin that he violated conditions of a plea agreement in the earlier case and must report to a



Palin

halfway house at month's end.
The Department of Corrections will determine if he
serves time at the halfway
house or behind bars. Anchorage District Attorney Richard
Allen said iail time is unlikely

The judge could have chosen to let Palin remain in Alaska Veterans Court, which gives eligible former servicemembers the option of enrolling in mental health treatment instead of

a traditional sentence.

Before Wallace issued his decision, Palin said he appreciated the opportunity to participate in the program in Anchorage. He acknowledged it was a challenge taking part because he had to come in from the Mar-Su Valley, about 45 miles away.

# **Probes roil DEA post in Colombia**

By Jim Mustian and Joshua Goodman Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia — New turmoil has roiled the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's high-profile office in Colombia where at least three agents have left in recent months amid investigations into alleged misconduct, including accusations that one passed secrets to drug cartels and another used government resources to hir prostitutes.

The DEA's top-ranking official in South America, who was brought in three years ago in the wake of a scandal involving agents participating in sex parties with prostitutes, is under investigation after the agency received an anonymous complaint saying he directed Colombian drivers working for the U.S. Embassy in Bogota "to procure sex workers." according to a copy of the complaint obtained by The Associated Press and one current and one former law enforcement official. The officials spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss an ongoing investigation.

Richard Dobrich, a regional director who is retirring from the DEA next month to take a private sector job, said in a statement and interview with the AP that the complaint is without merit and he would have to be a "complete idiot" to have anything to do with prostitution given the office's history. He also denied his departure has anything to do with the accusation.

"There is nothing to this zero," Dobrich said of the anonymous complaint, adding he wants another probe into how it go du. Dobrich said he believes this "attempted assassination on my reputation" is a setup, perhaps by a disgruntled former DEA employee.

Dobrich said investigators from the Justice Department's Office of Inspector General interviewed him at his office in Colombia last month and seized his phone as a matter of routine. Dobrich said he was later told by an investigator that no misconduct was found, but neither the OIG nor the investigator named by Dobrich would comment on the status of the investigation.

DEA spokeswoman Mary Brandenberger did not respond to emailed questions about Dobrich's departure but wrote that the agency "takes very seriously any allegations of wrongdoing or misconduct by our employees."

Prostitution is legal in Colombia, but Justice Department policy forbids DEA agents from engaging in such activity because it could lead them to be compromised by the very drug cartels they are pursuing.

Armando Ruiz, a retired Colombian police officer who has served as Dobrich's driver for three years, said he never saw his boss interact with prostitutes or do anything unbecoming.

"Unfortunately, when you're in a position like his, there's a lot of people who act out of hatred," Ruiz said

The scrutiny comes at an already fraught time for the DEA's Bogota office, which is critical to the U.S. efforts to control drug trafficking. Cocaine production — and seizures — in Colombia surged to a record high last year a subject likely to come up when President Donald Trump visits the country in November as part

of his first trip to Latin America. Federal authorities are also investigating Jose Irizarry, a former DEA agent assigned to Colombia who has been accused of passing intelligence to cartels, according to several law enforcement officials familiar with the matter. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss an ongoing investigation.

BuzzFeed News originally reported the allegations against Irizarry in April.

Irizarry was hired by the DEA in the U.S. despite indications that he didn't answer truthfully a polygraph exam he took upon admission, according to two U.S. officials familiar with the case. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation into his alleged criminal activity is ongoing.

Irizarry abruptly quit the DEA his year after his tour in Cartagena, Colombia, was curtailed and he was sent to the United States. Attempts by the AP to reach Irizarry by phone were not successful, and it was not clear whether he has a lawyer.

The DEA also received an anonymous complaint in recent months that accused Dobrich's deputy, Jesse Garcia, of having a sexual relationship with a subordinate. That complaint, a copy of which was also obtained by the AP, said Dobrich had been made aware of the relationship — a claim Dobrich denies — and that "favoritism has created a low morale within the admin staff" in Bogota.

Garcia, who retired shortly after the complaint was filed, could not be reached for comment. Possible phone numbers for him in Bogota rang unanswered.

Dobrich's tenure as the top executive in Colombia began in 2015, when he was brought in to restore order after a blistering inspector general's report found several DEA agents had participated in "sex parties" with prostitutes hired by Colombian cartels. That scandal prompted the suspension of several agents and the retirement of Michele Leonhart, the DEA's administrator at the

# **Meet the farmers of the future: Robots**

By Michael Liedtke Associated Press

SAN CARLOS, Calif. — Brandon Alexander would like to introduce you to Angus, the farmer of the future. He's heavyset, weighing in at nearly 1,000 pounds, not to mention a bit slow. But he's strong enough to hoist 800-pound pallets of maturing vegetables and can move them from place to place on his own.

Sure, Angus is a robot. But don't hold that against him, even if he looks more like a large tanning bed than C-3PO.

To Alexander, Angus and other robots are key to a new wave of local agriculture that aims to raise lettuce, basil and other produce in metropolitan areas while conserving water and sidestepping the high costs of human labor. It's a big challenge, and some earlier efforts have flopped. Even Google's "moonshot" laboratory, known as X, couldn't figure out how to make the economics work.

After raising \$6 million and tinkering with autonomous robots for two years, Alexander's startup Iron Ox says it's ready to start delivering crops of its robotically grown vegetables to people's salad bowls.

"And they are going to be the best salads you ever tasted," said Alexander, 33, a one-time Oklahoma farmboy-turned-Google engineer-turned-startup CEO.

Iron Ox planted its first robot farm in an 8,000-square-foot warehouse in San Carlos, Calif., a suburb 25 miles south of San Francisco. Although no deals have been struck yet, Alexander said Iron Ox has been talking to San Francisco Bay area restaurants interested in buying its leafy vegetables and expects to begin selling to supermarkets next year.

The San Carlos warehouse is only a proving ground for Iron Ox's long-term goals. It plans to set up robot farms in greenhouses that will rely mostly on natural sunlight instead of high-powered indoor lighting that sucks up expensive electricity. Initially, though, the company will sell its produce at a loss in order to remain competitive.

During the next few years, Iron Ox wants to open robot farms near metropolitan areas across the U.S. to serve up fresher produce to restaurants and supermarkets. Most of the vegetables and fruit consumed in the U.S. is grown in California, Arizona, Mexico and other nations. That means many people in U.S. cities are eating lettuce that's nearly a week old by the time it's delivered.

There are bigger stakes as well. The



PHOTOS BY ERIC RISBERG/AF

Iron Ox CEO Brandon Alexander gives a tour at his robotic indoor farm in San Carlos, Calif., last month.

world's population is expected to swell to 10 billion by 2050 from about 7.5 billion now, making it important to find ways to feed more people without further environmental impact, according to a report from the World Resources Institute

Iron Ox, Alexander reasons, can be part of the solution if its system can make the leap from its small, laboratorylike setting to much larger greenhouses.

The startup relies on a hydroponic system that conserves water and automation in place of humans who seem increasingly less interested in U.S. farming jobs that pay an average of \$13.32 per hour, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Nearly half of U.S. farmworkers planting and picking crops aren't in the U.S. legally, based on a survey by the U.S. Department of I shor

The heavy lifting on Iron Ox's indoor



A robotic arm lifts plants at Iron Ox.

farm is done by Angus, which rolls about the indoor farm on ommidirectional wheels. Its main job is to shuttle maturing produce to another, as-yet unnamed robot, which transfers plants from smaller growing pods to larger ones, using a mechanical arm whose joints are lubricated with "food-safe" grease.

It's a tedious process to gently pick up each of the roughly 250 plants on each pallet and transfer them to their bigger pods, but the robot doesn't seem to mind the work. Iron Ox still relies on people to clip its vegetables when they are ready for harvest, but Alexander said it is working on another robot that will eventually handle that job

Alexander formerly worked on robotics at Google X, but worked on drones, not indoor farms. While there, he met Jon Binney, Iron Ox's co-founder and chief technology officer. The two men became friends and began to brainstorm about ways they might be able to use their engineering skills for the greater good.

"If we can feed people using robots, what could be more impactful than that?" Alexander said.

# Houston City Council short-circuits proposed robot brothel

By Juan A. Lozano
Associated Press

HOUSTON—A Canadian company's plan to open a so-called robot brothel in Houston has been short-circuited by city leaders.

Houston's City Council on Wednesday updated one local ordinance to specifically ban individuals from having sex with an "anthropomorphic device," a device that resembles a human being, at a sexually oriented business. But the change wouldn't ban the company from selling the dolls for use elsewhere.

The company, KinkySdollS, had previously said it wants to open a "love dolls brothel" in Houston in which people would be able to use its humanlike dolls at a business that has drawn comparisons to the robotic hosts on the science fiction series "Westworld."

It would have been the company's second location. The first location opened in 2017 in Toronto. On its website, the company says it provides an "adult love dolls rent before you buy service."

On its website, KinkySdollS says its humanlike dolls, which can speak and feel warm to the touch, are available for sale or rent. The dolls can cost more than \$3,000 each.

KinkySdollS, didn't immediately return emails seeking comment Wednesday.

Before the City Council unanimously approved the change to the ordinance, council member Greg Travis called the proposed robot brothel "weird" and "gross."

Travis said he believed that most residents don't want the business to open in Houston. "We are not sin city," Travis said.

Officials said they are not trying to legislate morality with the updated ordinance.

Mayor Sylvester Turner said a business could sell such robotic devices but individuals couldn't use them at the premises before buying them. "We want businesses to come.

But then they're some that we say, 'You know it's fine if you go someplace else,'" said Turner, who has been part of a chorus of local leaders and community

groups that have pushed back against the robot brothel, which would have been the first such business in the U.S.

Elijah Rising, a Houston-based nonprofit focused on ending sex trafficking, has started a Change. org petition asking that the business be kept out of the city. The petition has received more than 13,500 signatures.

The city ordinance that was updated deals with the regulation of adult arcades and adult mini-theatres in Houston and classifies a robot as an arcade device.

Turner said the change in the ordinance was not targeted at any one particular business but targeted "at this type of behavior than any business of this kind

would engage in."

Houston has long had a culture that's resistant to regulation and remains the only major U.S. city without zoning. Turner has said that this lack of zoning might have been one of the reasons why the owners of the robot brothel thought to try to open it in Houston

Construction of the site for proposed robot brothel had already begun but was stopped after city inspectors visited the location and determined the business owners didn't have the proper permits, Houston's public works department said last week.

It was not immediately known if the business had obtained additional permits or had resumed construction.

# Race on to get aid to victims of Indonesia quake, tsunami

AND STEPHEN WRIGHT Associated Press

PALU, Indonesia - Nearly a week after disaster struck, aid workers raced Thursday to get shelter, food, medicine and other badly needed supplies to the Indonesian port city of Palu, ravaged by a powerful earthquake and a tsunami that killed more than 1,400 people.

The Indonesian military was bringing in hundreds more troops to help with search and rescue efforts and to keep order among survivors who have grown desperate six days after their lives were thrown into chaos. Hundreds of the injured and other survivors lined up on the tarmac of Palu's badly damaged airport, hoping to escape aboard military aircraft.

As help and supplies began arriving, there were other signs of progress: Trucks were hauling in new electricity poles to replace broken ones and workers were restringing the wires. Workers said they intended to repair all the damage to the networks and substations and to get them reconnected to the grid within days.

The United Nations announced a \$15 million allocation to support relief efforts, saying more than 200,000 people were in dire need

More than 70,000 homes are thought to have been wrecked by the quake, demolished by the tsunami or engulfed by mudslides. Thousands of people are sleeping in tents or in rough shelters made from debris, unsure when they'll be able to rebuild. Many spend their days trying to secure basics like clean water and fuel for

"Please tell the government

and the NGOs if they're really willing to help us with some food, please do not give it away through the command posts," said Andi Rusding, who was huddled with his relatives under a tarpaulin. "It's better to go directly to each and every tent. Because sometime [the relief goods] aren't dis-tributed evenly."

"It's really difficult to find water and we don't have a place to shower, but thank God we got some aid from the government, including a medical checkup," said Masrita Arifin, who was camped out a few hundred yards from her family's heavily damaged home.

National disaster spokesman Supoto Purwo Nugroho said most of the 1,424 confirmed dead had been buried. He told reporters in Jakarta that search efforts were being stepped up, including at a collapsed hotel in Palu where a South Korean is believed trapped.

The death toll is expected to rise as rescue crews dig and comb through debris after being slowed initially by impassable roads and other damage.

People and heavy machinery were struggling to unearth victims from expanses of earth that surged sideways due to liquefaction, a phenomenon in which an earthquake turns loose, wet soil into quicksandlike mud. Several communities were wiped out as homes suddenly sank into the mire, which has since hardened in the tropical sun.

Many victims might have survived with faster help, said Palu resident Bambang. He told local television he found a friend injured and trapped under debris but was unable to help him. The friend died, leaving a message to have him buried in front of

his church, he said. "He was still alive then, but he died because the evacuation was so slow," said Bambang, who, like many Indonesians, uses one name.
Indonesian Foreign Minis-

ter Retno Marsudi said military transport aircraft from India and Singapore had arrived to help in the relief efforts. Marsudi said 18 countries had offered help and the government was still working out arrangements with some countries, including Japan and

The aircraft will be used to transport supplies and to evacuate victims, he said.



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A man stands Thursday amid the damage near boats swept ashore by a tsunami in Wani village on the outskirts of Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.

## WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU IS IMPORTANT TO US.



### Turkish soldiers die in blast blamed on Kurdish rebels

Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — Kurdish rebels detonated an explosive device Thursday on a road in southeast Turkey, killing at least seven soldiers, officials said. Two other soldiers were wounded in the

The explosion occurred on a road near the town of Gercus in the majority-Kurdish province of Batman. The soldiers, who were inside an armored military vehicle, were on their way to protect a construction site in the region, said Numan Kurtulmus, a deputy chairman of Turkey's ruling

Earlier, the state-run Anadolu agency said they were traveling to carry out operations against the rebel group. Four of the soldiers were

killed at the site while three oth-

ers died of their wounds while hospitalized.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan condemned the attack and said Turkey wouldn't be deterred from its fight against the rebels.

'The blood of our martyrs and our veterans will be avenged," Erdogan said. "We want them to know that this incident intensifies our anger and our hatred."

Anadolu said the military had launched a major operation, backed by air power, to apprehend the assailants.

The Kurdistan Workers' Party. or PKK, has waged a more-thanthree-decade insurgency in Turkey's mostly Kurdish southeast region. The conflict has killed tens of thousands of people since it started in 1984.

The group is considered a terrorist organization by Turkey and its Western allies

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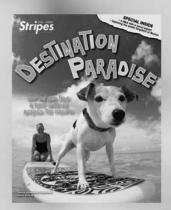
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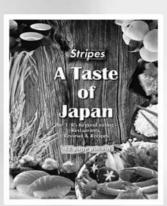












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#### WORLD

# Japan to revise whaling program

By Mari Yamaguchi Associated Press

TOKYO — Japanese fisheries officials said Thursday they will revise one of the country's two main research whaling programs after an international organization said selling meat from killed sei whales violates a convention protecting endangered species protecting endangered species ambition to resume commercial whaling.

The standing committee of

The standing committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, or CITES, said this week that Japan's use of sei whale meat from its Northern Pacific research program for commercial purposes violates the convention.

CITES bans commercial trade of endangered species, including sei whales — one of the largest whales, which grows to about 50 feet in length and weighs about 20 tons.

A Fisheries Agency official said Thursday that the CITES decision is not binding but Japan will work out a revision and submit it to CITES by Feb. 1.

A revision could mean a major change to Japan's research whaling in the Northern Pacific, including a possible halt to commercial sales of sei whale meat. Japan has killed up to 100 sei

whales annually since 2000.
Under Japan's Northern Pacific research whaling program for 2017-28, allowed by the International Whaling Commission, it plans to catch up to 134 sei whales annually.

The CITES decision does not affect Japan's other major research program in the Antarctic, where if hunts minke whales—up to 333 each year. Japan had to scale down its Antarctic whaling after a 2014 International Court of Justice ruling that its research whaling wasn't scientific enough.

Commercial whaling was superposed by the IWC in the mid-1980s because of dwindling stocks. Japan has since switched to what it calls research whaling, which is allowed by the IWC as an exception, and says stocks have recovered enough that commercial hunts should resume. Its proposal to do so, however, was defeated at an IWC meeting in Brazil on Sept. 14.

Japan has hunted whales for centuries but has reduced its catch in recent years amid international protests and declining demand for whale meat at home. Japan annually consumes about 5,000 tons of whale meat from its research hunts, officials said.



KYODO NEWS/AP



JUNJI KUROKAWA/AP

Above: A minke whale is hauled ashore at Kushiro port, Hokkaido, in 2016 as Japan began its seasonal hunting of minke whales for research purposes. Left: Japanese whaling ship the Shonan Maru 2 arrives back from the Antarctic in

# Test urged for patrons of German club

Associated Press

BERLIN — Berlin authorities on Thursday urged patrons of a famed nightclub in the German capital to immediately visit a doctor to be checked for bacterial meningitis after a visitor was hospitalized for the illness.

The patient likely contracted meningitis at the downtown club on Saturday, officials said.

The KitKatClub is renowned for its sexually uninhibited techno parties that draw visitors from around the world.

City authorities issued a warning this week after being alerted to the Berlin patron's exposure to the disease, urging all others who were at the club at the time to consult with a doctor.

Bacterial meningitis can be spread via saliva and

close body contact. Common symptoms are strong headaches, high fever, a stiff neck, dizziness and weakness.

The disease can become life-threatening within hours

In a statement on its home page, the club said that "while infections in the club were very unlikely according to doctors and authorities ... anybody suffering from symptoms should immediately see a dector."

The club said that none of its employees had shown any symptoms so far, but all had been offered antibiotics as a preventive measure.

City officials said there was no need to shut down the club because it wasn't the source of infection, and the site itself was not contaminated.

## Red Cross workers attacked during Ebola efforts in Congo

Associated Pres

DAKAR, Senegal — The international community is sounding new alarm after three Red Cross workers were attacked while trying to contain the latest deadly Ebola outbreak in Congo.

The U.N. Security Council seeks an immediate end to hostilities as it leaves for a Congo visit Thursday. Human Rights Watch urges an investigation into massacres that have killed more than 200 civilians this year in Beni,

where Ebola efforts are based. The International Federation of

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies says the attack occurred Tuesday as workers carried out a safe Ebola burial in the northeastern city of Butembo. It says two were seriously wounded.

The World Health Organization says the outbreak is at a "critical point." Armed groups are active in the region and fearful residents have been aggressive toward health workers.





# **BERLIN AIRLIFT 70TH ANNIVERSARY MAP**

GET YOUR MAP IN THE FRIDAY WEEKEND EDITION OF STARS STRIPES.

ON OCTOBER 12TH.

### AMERICAN ROUNDUP

#### Mom fills son's cup with THE CENSUS alcohol, gets drunk

GA MARIETTA — Police in suburban Atlanta said a woman filled her son's sippy cup with an alcoholic beverage, sneaked it into a movie theater and became so drunk she couldn't walk, talk or care for the 5-year-old.

News outlets quote a Cobb County police arrest warrant as saving Kristina Gibson is facing charges including public intoxication. Police said Gibson also possibly combined the drink with

prescription drugs.
Sgt. Wayne Delk said a theater employee called police after moviegoers complained because Gibson's son was crying.

Police called her friend to pick up the boy and the woman was taken to a hospital.

#### **Police: Students given** pot brownies for votes

HARTFORD - Po-HARTFORD — Police were investigating allegations that a 17-year-old cheerleader distributed marijuana-laced brownies at her southwestern Michigan high school in an effort to be voted homecoming queen.

WXMI-TV reported that three brownies recovered from students at Hartford High School were sent to the state police crime lab for testing. Investigators said nine other confections remain unaccounted for.

Hartford police officer Michael Prince said officers learned through a tip that the brownies were taken to the school Sept. 26. The tipster said some were distributed in goodie bags for the football team, and the leftovers were used for homecoming queen votes.

#### Man appeals sentence in mutilation attack

SIOUX FALLS - A Sioux Falls man who pleaded guilty to aggravated assault for choking his ex-girlfriend and mutilating her breasts is appealing his sentence to the South Dakota Supreme Court.

Tony Ledbetter's attorney, David Stuart, told the justices Wednesday that the circuit court erred when it failed to sentence Ledbetter to 30 years or less as laid out in a plea agreement. Ledbetter was sentenced to 45 years in prison in Lincoln County last November.

Ledbetter was convicted of his ex-girlfriend, punching his ex-girlfriend, knocking her unconscious and cutting off her nipple with a pair of scissors. When the victim regained consciousness, Ledbetter attacked her again and cut her left breast

#### Teen hospitalized after surprise paintball attack

PATERSON — A 14-year-old New Jersey boy was hospitalized with severe welts after he was shot multiple times at close range by a man wielding a paintball gun.

Paterson police said the boy was shot 20 to 25 times at close

The approximate amount paid at auction for a prominent Abraham Lincoln scholar's collection of material pertaining to the 16th president. Swann Galleries said nearly 90 percent of Harold Holzer's collection of hundreds of Lincoln books, artwork and documents was sold at the auction in Manhattan. An 1860 painting of Lincoln before he owner, a board denuit in this base of the said to the said of the s of Lincoln before he grew a beard drew the highest price, at \$40,000





the public Saturday and runs through May 27, 2019, Right: Chrysalises of the Pipevine Swallowtail are displayed.

PHOTOS BY MARY ALTAFFER/AP

range Monday night with no clear motive. Police issued an arrest warrant for the attacker.

#### Threat to crash plane into zoo spurs evacuation

DENVER - About 1,000 people had to cut short their visit to the Denver Zoo after someone threatened to crash an airplane into the facility.

Police spokesman Sonny Jackson told KUSA-TV someone phoned in the threat Tuesday afternoon, and the zoo was immediately evacuated.

During the investigation, visitors gathered in surrounding City Park just east of downtown, and some roads were blocked off.

#### City police on the hunt for loose python

BIRMINGHAM - The search is on in downtown Birmingham for a missing hall nython

WBRC-TV reported that Caleb Louis, 21, took his pet to a nonprofit program he participates in called the Dannon Project. Lisa Cole of the Dannon Project said Louis was told to take the snake out the building.

Louis returned the python to his car. He let the window down slightly so it could get air. He returned to the car about 10 minutes later and the python was gone.

#### Vandals pull old Viking statue into river

PHILADELPHIA Police said vandals toppled a 100-year-old Viking statue along a river running through Philadelphia.

Authorities found the 7-foot-4inch statue of Thorfinn Karlsefni submerged in the Schuylkill River around 2:30 a.m. Tuesday. The statue represents the Icelandic explorer who is thought to have visited America around 1004 A D

No arrests have been made in connection with the recent damage.

The statue weighs several thousand pounds, and police said they will need a crane to pull it from the water

#### City limits access to cemetery for Halloween

SALEM - The city of Salem is limiting the number of people who will be allowed inside a historic cemetery with a direct link to the 1692 witch trials as Halloween approaches.

The Salem News reported that on Saturdays and Sundays during October and on Halloween night, no more than 100 people will be permitted inside the Charter Street Burial Ground at any one

The city started limiting access to the cemetery last year after large crowds were seen sitting, eating and even changing diapers on the tombs

The cemetery, established in 1637, is the burial site of John Hathorne and Bartholomew Gedney. two judges who presided over the witch trials.

#### Family reunited with dog missing for 5 years

NORWICH - A Connecticut family was reunited with their dog five years after the beloved pet went missing The Norwich Bulletin reported

that Norwich Assistant Animal Control Officer Donna Gremminger spotted the 17-year-old female dachshund in a parking lot in a city park. She has lost most of her sight and hearing.

Through a microchip, they identified the dog's owners as Rick and Michelle Riendeau, of Brooklyn, Conn. and reunited them Monday.

From wire reports



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# BUSINESS/WEATHER

# **Canadians relieved trade agreement completed**

By Rob GILLIES Associated Press

TORONTO - President Donald Trump vowed to make Canada pay after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said he wouldn't be bullied in trade talks. Trump called Trudeau "weak" and "dishonest." He threatened tariffs on cars and slapped them on steel.

The unprecedented attacks on America's closest ally left a bitter

But Canadians mostly feel relieved after reaching a new trade said it could have been a lot worse Canada avoided auto tariffs and maintained access to the all-important American market.

The U.S. made few, if any concessions, while Canada provided more access to its dairy sector and allowed Washington possibly to prevent Canada from reaching a free trade deal with China.

Canada also was not able to remove steel and aluminum tariffs.

We were definitely over the barrel in this negotiation," said Peter MacKay, a former Canasurvived it. We have survived the 14 roller coaster months of a very unpredictable president.

About 75 percent of Canada's exports go to the U.S., so preserving major elements of the North American Free Trade Agreement

Canada is one of the most tradedependent countries in the world. and Trump's talk of ripping up that deal and imposing a 25 percent tariff on the auto sector posed a serious economic threat

"We didn't ask to and we dealt with it the best we could," said Jean Charest, a former Quebec premier.

Chrystia Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland, Canada's chief negotiator, called it a victory because it maintains tariff-free access to the U.S. for most of the country's

exports.

The Trump administration's most contentious demands like its insistence that 50 percent of autos imports be Americanmade were dropped. Canada also kept a NAFTA dispute resolution process that the U.S. wanted to jettison.

"The most important gain from this agreement is retaining our access to the U.S. market and Canadians understand that." Freeland said.

But there is a widely shared belief that Canada made concessions and the U.S. did not.

"The concessions were all from Canada and Mexico," MacKay said. "All of them.

The only thing that the United States gave up was more demands." EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates
Euro costs (Oct. 5)..... Dollar buys (Oct. 5) British pound (Oct.

### Amazon halts bonuses, stock awards to help fund raises

BY SPENCER SOPER Bloomberg

eliminating monthly bonuses and stock awards for warehouse workers and other hourly employees after the company pledged this week to raise pay to at least \$15 per

Warehouse workers for the ecommerce giant in the U.S. were eligible in the past for monthly bonuses that could total hundreds of dollars per month as well as stock awards, said two people familiar with Amazon's pay policies. The company informed those employees Wednesday that it's eliminating both of those compensation categories to help pay for the raises, the people said.

plaudits Amazon received when it announced Monday that the company would raise its minimum pay. The pay increase warded off criticism from politicians and activists and nut the company in a good position to recruit temporary workers for the important holiday shopping season.

Even after the elimination of bonuses and stock awards, hourly operations and customer service workers will see their total compensation increase, the company said in a statement

Workers whose pay already was above \$15 per hour will get hourly raises of \$1, according to two people familiar with the matter who asked not to be identified discussing the company's compensation practices. Some longtime workers expressed frustration that their raises are small compared with those of newly hired workers who will see hourly pay bumps of as much as 40 percent.

A higher hourly wage that new workers receive immediately is a better recruiting tool in a tight labor market than stock options that take years to materialize, especially in the warehousing industry, which sees high turnover, said David DeBoskey, an accounting professor at San Diego State University.

#### MARKET WATCH Oct 3, 2018 Dow Jones 54.45 industrials 26 828 39 Nasdag composite 8.025.08 Standard & 2.08 Poor's 500 2.925.51 Russell 15.25

British pound (Oct. 5)	\$1.33
Japanese yen (Oct. 5) South Korean won (Oct. 5)	111.00
South Korean won (Oct. 5)	1.099.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3769
British pound\$1.	.3016/0.7683
Canada (Dollar)	1.2871
Canada (Dollar) China (Yuan)	6.8835
Egypt (Pound)	17.9090
Euro\$1.	.1519/0.8682
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8348
Egypt (Pound)	281.49
Israel (Shekel)	3.6344
Japan (Yen)	114.04
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3037
Norway (Krone) Philippines (Peso)	8.2278
Philippines (Peso)	54.27
Poland (Zloty) Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.74
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7514
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3791
South Korea (Won) Switzerland (Franc)	1,127.94
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9918
Thailand (Baht)	32.62
Turkey (Lira)	6.1470
(Military exchange rates are the	
available to customers at milit	tary banking
facilities in the country of issu	ance
for Japan, South Korea, Germa	iny, the
Netherlands and the United Ki	
nonlocal currency exchange r	ates (i.e.,
purchasing British pounds in C	sermany),
check with your local military	banking
facility. Commercial rates are	interbank
rates provided for reference w	rnen buying
currency. All figures are foreig	in currencies
to one dollar, except for the Br	itish pound,

# INTEREST RATES

Country Germany Change in price	\$3.155 +2.2 cents	\$3.512 +2.8 cents	\$3.757 +3.2 cents	<b>Diesel</b> \$3.602 +4.2 cents	Ji C
Netherlands Change in price		\$3.860 +2.2 cents	\$3.989 +1.5 cents	\$4.045 +6.8 cents	0
U.K. Change in price		\$3.457 +2.8 cents	\$3.702 +3.2 cents	\$3.547 +4.2 cents	S
Azores Change in price			\$3.700 +3.2 cents	-	G
Belgium Change in price		\$3.191 no change	\$3.479 no change	\$3.390 no change	
Turkey Change in price			\$3.578 +3.2 cents	\$3.423* +4.2 cents	
Italy Change in price	\$4.202 +7.5 cents			\$4.278 +7.6 cents	

**EUROPE GAS PRICES** 

FACIFIC DAS FRICES					
Country Japan Change in price	Unleaded 	Super unleaded \$3.499 +3.0 cents	Super plus 	Diesel \$3.349 +4.0 cents	
Okinawa Change in price	\$2.899 +2.0 cents			\$3.349 +4.0 cents	
South Korea Change in price	\$2.939 +3.0 cents		\$3.539 +3.0 cents	\$3.379 +4.0 cents	
Guam Change in price	\$2.929** +2.0 cents	\$3.289 +3.0 cents	\$3.529 +3.0 cents		

\* Diesel EFD \*\* Midgrade For the week of Oct. 6-12

#### WEATHER OUTLOOK









### WEEKEND: GADGETS & CHARTS

#### 'Screen Time' iust a first step in curbing our phone addiction

Screen Time, part of the operat-ing system that iPhone owners began downloading last month, represents the biggest move yet by a technology company to encour-age less use of a device, not more. That's a good thing: According to data from a time-tracking app called Moment, Americans spend on average four hours a day a quarter of our waking lives

staring at their smartphones. Screen Time, which is new with Apple's iOS 12, automatically tracks how often you pick up your phone and how much time you spend on each app. It also allows you to set daily limits for timesucks like social media, games or streaming video. It's a good start, but Apple could do more. A huge number of people need help creat-

ing better digital boundaries Apple has already embedded multiple fitness features into its phones, and clearly sees this as a competitive advantage to its product. In my fantasy, screentime-management features would be likewise integrated into a suite of apps — let's call it iTime. Much like Apple's Health suite tracks exercise, sleep, nutrition, even heart rate, iTime would support our mental health by centralizing features that control how and when we use our phones.

For example, it could enable custom home screens assigned to different times or places: I would like to have a vacation screen that displays only the camera, maps. phone and iMessage. I'd also like an automatic evenings/weekends home screen that omits my work email, and an early-morning screen that gives just my alarm clock and meditation app.

iTime might also give us the option to create "lock boxes" folders of apps that require a passcode. We could use those to store apps that we know have a tendency to suck us in — such as social media, dating apps, even the news. iOS12 has some of this functionality in features called Downtime and App Limits, but they're both rudimentary and easy to override

During its initial setup, iTime would offer a short intake quiz

reboot of the film "A Star Is Born."



APPLE/TNS

**Detailed Activity Reports show** the total time spent in each app, usage across categories of apps, how many notifications are received and how often a person picks up his or her iOS device.

asking which specific apps you'd like to dial back on using. It would also ask you to identify activities that you'd like to spend more time on — meditation, reading, music, exercise, family — and send you suggestions and encouragements.

iTime would also let users schedule "unplugged" sessions in advance — and across iOS devices - during which you would be completely blocked from your specified list of apps and sites That feature used to be available through an app called Freedom, but Apple recently removed Freedom from its app store. iOS 12 has another new feature,

Siri Shortcuts, that will make predictive suggestions based on things you normally do, like drive to a certain location or place a lunch takeout order at 11:30 a.m. Why not have a similar predictive tool for the Do Not Disturb setting?

There is no ideal amount of phone-use time. Everyone's needs and desires are different, and time spent listening to music while running is certainly different from mindlessly scrolling through Twitter, Apple has taken the lead on helping us create healthier. personalized relationships with its devices - but I hope that the next update will offer even more. - Catherine Price

Los Angeles Times

#### GADGET WATCH

# A turning point for vinyl enthusiasts

By GREGG ELLMAN Tribune News Service

few years ago at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, Croslev gave me a booth tour and education about the resurgence of vinyl and of course included some of their latest turntables. The surge is still going and Crosley is produc-

ing some great turntables. The latest I tried was the C6 two-speed manual.

Easy is an understatement for setup. I used the RCA outputs for a direct connection to my receiver

I set the turntable's manually adjustable belt for 33 1/3 RPMs because that's all I own. To play 45s, just move the belt to change the speed. Other aspects of the setup are the tonearm counterweight and clicking on the dust cover. An Audio Technica Cartridge comes preinstalled

Since it's a manual turntable, use a cueing lever to drop the needle to start the music. When your record is done playing, manually lift and return the needle to its base. The bottom has vibration-control feet.

The C6 has easy setup and great sound, but it also looks great in a walnut-colored veneer shell with an acrylic folding lid. Other choices are black or red.

At first glance, the C6 might be considered an entry-level turntable, but it's also suitable for any vinyl enthusiast. As is true elsewhere in the electronics world, you can always get bigger and better, but if it does what you want, why bother? Online: crosleyradio.com; \$159.95

Digital technology has grown by leaps and bounds, but sound remains important, too. This relates to freestanding audio or audio that accompanies videos.

Blue makes microphones that help create studio-quality sound for podcasts, gaming, live streaming, conference calls, videos, or just calling mom, without the need of a studio.



The Croslev C6 two-speed manual turntable comes in walnut, black or red and has an acrylic folding lid.

The latest and greatest from Blue is the affordable Yeti Nano, built with two studio-quality 14mm condenser microphone capsules inside a swivel desktop stand (8.31 by 3.78 by 4.29 inches). Blue has made the setup as easy as possible to use with both Mac and PC systems.

Audio junkies will understand specifications of the Yeti Nano, like recording resolution up to 24 bit/48kHz and that the gain can be adjusted within the Blue companion app. The app also allows headphone volume control, including mic mute, which will make the microphone's indicator light glow red. When recording resumes, the indicator will return to green.

According to Blue, the Yeti Nano is recognized by any audio or video recording software including Skype, GarageBand and iMovie.

A headphone jack is built into the mic for zero-latency direct monitoring.

Blue also lists the Yeti Nano as compatible with some Androids with a USB OTG adapter and to some USB-C devices with an adapter. The bottom has a standard-size thread for connecting it to a camera and video tripods, and included adapters will connect it to a Blue Compass boom arm or other audio accessories. Online: bluedesigns.com; \$99.99



The Yeti Nano from Blue is built with two studio-quality 14mm condenser microphone capsules inside a swivel desktop stand. BLUE/TNS

#### SPOTIFY MUSIC ITUNES MUSIC

ON THE COVER: Bradley Cooper, left, and Lady Gaga star in the latest

The top 10 songs on iTunes through Oct. 2:

- "Natural," Imagine Dragons
   "Youngblood," 5 Seconds of Sum-
- 3. "On My Way to You," Cody Johnson
- nnson "Simple," Florida Georgia Line "Mercy," Brett Young "In My Feelings," Drake
- "You Say," Lauren Daigle "Whatever It Takes," Imagine
- Dragons
  9. "Weekend," Kane Brown
  10. "Love Lies," Khalid & Normani
  - Compiled by Stars and Stripes

- The top 10 songs on Spotify through Oct. 2:
- 1. "Taki Taki" (with Selena Gomez, Ozuna & Cardi B), D) Snake
  2. "I Love It" (& Lil Pump), Kanye West
  3. "Happier," Marshmello
  4. "Falling Down," Lil Peep
  5. "Mona Lisa" (feat. Kendrick Lamar),
- Lil Wayne 6. "Eastside" (with Halsey & Khalid),
- benny blanco 7. "Promises" (with Sam Smith), Calvin Harris 8. "In My Mind," Dynoro
- "In My Feelings," Drake
   "SICKO MODE." Travis Scott
- Compiled by Stars and Stripes

#### ITUNES MOVIES BOOKS

- The top 10 movies on iTunes for the week ending Sept. 30:
- "Solo: A Star Wars Story"
- "Hotel Transylvania 3 "Jurassic World:
- Fallen Kingdom"
  4. "Ocean's 8"
  5. "Skyscraper" "The Commuter "Sicario: Day of
- the Soldado" 8. "Tag" 9. "Deadpool 2" 10. "Uncle Drew
  - Compiled by AP
- "Red War," Kyle Mills & Vince Flynn SOLO
  - "Don't Let Go," Harlan Coben "Behind Closed Doors," B.A. Paris "Girl, Wash Your Face," Rachel 1 "Juror #3." James Patterson &

The top 10 books on Apple's iBook

charts for the week ending Sept. 30:

- Nancy Allen 6. "The Book Thief," Markus Zusak 7. "The Name of the Wind," Patrick
- 8. "Cross My Heart," James Patterson 9. "Where the Crawdads Sing" Delia Owens 10. "Fear," Bob Woodward
  - Compiled by AP

#### APPS

The top paid iPhone apps for the week ending Sept. 30:

- 1 Minecraft
- 2. NBA 2K19
- Heads Up!
- Plague Inc. Bloons TD 6 4. 5.

  - Facetune
  - iSchedule
- Geometry Dash
   Earth Impact 10. Afterlight 2

- Compiled by AP

WEEKEND

# CHECK IT OUT

Events, entertainment and other ways to fill your free time



Norman Reedus, Andrew Lincoln and Danai Gurira return to television this week in season 9 of "The Walking Dead."

### Zombie gorefest returns to TV

Change is in the air as "The Walking Dead" returns for its ninth season. As fans all know, the show's leading man, Andrew Lincoln, will appear in his final episodes as Rick Grimes. But how will he go — and when? The saga resumes a year and a half after the end of the war as the survivors are rebuilding civilization under Rick's leadership. But, of course, new challenges — and conflicts — lie ahead.

- Chuck Barney/TNS Other shows with season premieres on AFN this week include "Station 19," "Will & Grace," "Van Helsing," "Fresh Off the Boat" and "Madam Secretary."

- · Season 9 premiere of 'The Walking Dead' airs Monday on AFN-Spectrum.
- · All AFN shows at tinyurl. com/psynz28.

## Listen to Lil Wayne's long-awaited album

Fans have been waiting for Lil Wavne's

"Tha Carter V" literally for years. The 23-track album already has a crazy history, from being suspended in legal limbo to being in the posses-



pharmaceutical CEO Martin Shkreli. As rap albums tend to be, this one is full of guest rappers and voices — including Wayne's daughter and mother, and Barack Obama.

· Story on Page 37.



# Weezer's 'Africa' video a fitting follow-up

Weezer's cover of Toto's much-loved 1982 hit "Africa" was the surprise hit of the summer. Recently, Weezer released a video that, much like the song, seems pretty tame and ordinary until you're most of the way through it. It's at that point you realize you're not watching Weezer re-create its "Undone (The Sweater Song)" video at all — you're watching Weird Al Yankovic pretending to be lead singer Rivers Cuomo, complete with crazy accordion solo.

 Watch the video at tinyurl.com/ yc46nlav.

#### WEEKEND: MOVIES

Bradley Cooper, seated left, cast member and director of the film "A Star Is Born," poses with actors, from left, Anthony Ramos, Sam Elliott, Lady Gaga and Dave Chappelle last month in Toronto. In this latest incarnation of the romantic drama, Cooper portrays a seasoned musician who discovers and falls in love with a struggling artist portrayed by Gaga.

Centr Przezuo, Invision/AP



# Mirrored by its making

# 'A Star Is Born' hits close to home for cast

By Jake Coyle Associated Press

hen Bradley Cooper saw Lady Gaga perform "La Vie en Rose" at fundraiser at the home of entrepreneur Sean Parker, it wasn't one of the important moments along the road to making "A Star Is Born." It was, Cooper says, THE moment.

"She demolished the room," he recalls, still wide-eyed about it. "I knew that was plutonium."

The next day, Cooper went to Gaga's home in Malibu, Calif, to confirm that what he had seen the night before was real. He arrived hungry. Gaga — whose friends call her by her real name, Stefani — fed him some leftover spaghetti, and the two East Coast, Italian American-raised performers (Cooper is from Philadelphia, Gaga New York) felt an immediate, natural connection. "Instantly," says Gaga. "When I saw his eyes, when I opened the door."

Within minutes, they were singing by Gaga's piano and "A Star Is Born" was, well, born.

"And when I heard him sing! My God! I stopped playing the piano and I was like, "Bradley, you can sing!" said Gaga, sitting next to her co-star and director. "And he was like, 'Really?' And then he said, 'Let's film it.' He started filming it on his phone."

Cooper shakes his head. "It was nuts."
It can be hard to separate the already mythologized transformations — Cooper directs!
Gaga acts! — that fueled "A Star Is Born" from the fictional fable of fame, itself. In both the movie's creation and in the finished product are lessons of bold chances and artistic integrity, of personal frailty and popular success. "A Star Is Born" is a movie mirrored by its making.

"A Star Is Born" is the fourth version of the story (or fifth, depending on how you count). First was George Cukor's "What Price Hollywood?" in 1932, followed by William Wellman's 1937 remake. Later came one with Judy Garland and James Mason in 1954 and one in 1976 with Barbra Streisand and Kris Kristofferson.

A new "A Star Is Born" has been in development for about two decades at Warner Bros., with various incarnations once planned around Will Smith and Whitney Houston, or Beyonce and Leonardo DiCaprio with Clint Eastwood directing. Cooper, who starred in Eastwood's "American Sniper," first discussed acting in the film for Eastwood before deciding to direct, too. For encouragement, Eastwood visited the set on the first day of shooting.

"I remember he said he liked my boots," says Gaga. "I turned bright red."

Cooper, though, put his own imprint on "A Star Is Born," retailoring the story and — he hopes — launching himself as a writer and director. With meticulous preparation, Cooper — ever the student — threw himself into the new role. Often, he could be found under a table in a secene with a monitor so as to be as close as possible to the actors. "He was tireless," says Sam Elliott, who plays Cooper's brother in the film. "He never quit on it, from beginning to end. It probably drove the studio must at some point that he wouldn't quit on it."

"Being 39 when I started this journey, I just realize: Time is the biggest currency. If I don't do what I keep feeling inside, constantly seeing shots in my head," Cooper says, trailing off. "I always knew that at some point I had to stop critiquing other movies and just make

Cooper stars as Jackson Maine, a hard-drinking, country-rock 'n' roll star in the vein of Gregg Allman. (Maine's band is played by Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real, Neil Young's regular backing band.) When Jackson ducks into a drag bar for a drink, he's blown away by Ally (Gaga), who's there singing —what else — "La Vie en Rose."

A naturally talented singer who has essentially given up on her music dreams, Ally has always been told her look (and her nose)

l've had teachers tell me, "You have to be this or vou have to be that to be successful. You have to change the way you speak. You have to grow your hair out." I've had people tell me all kinds of things to give me the formula for success. But what I realize, which you find by the end of this movie, all you gotta do is love yourself and believe in vourself. and continue to be

> Anthony Ramos actor, "A Star Is Born"

vour truest self. 7

isn't quite right. She and Jackson quickly fall in love, even as Jackson's drinking problem worsens, but not before they can together forge something honest and beautiful through music, catapulting Ally to stardom.

"When I'm watching it back, I see myself as a much younger girl, more like when I was 15 writing songs at the piano," says Gaga. "What Jackson is trying to teach her is something that I still want to give more of in my music now and in the future. It's the nakedness of talent."

A rare fervor has greeted Cooper's "A Star Is Born." Its trailer has been watched more than 10 million times, many of them repeat, misty-eyed views. And if there's one thing that accounts for its swoon-inducing power, it's this self-empowering message of fame coming to those who are true to themselves.

It's something that resonates for many in the cast, too, like Anthony Ramos, who plays Ally's best friend. The 26-year-old actor, who grew up in the projects of Bushwick, Brooklyn, caught his big break when Lin-Manuel Miranda cast him in "Hamilton."

"I've had teachers tell me, 'You have to be this or you have to be that to be successful. You have to change the way you speak. You have to grow your hair out.' I've had people tell me all kinds of things to give me the formula for success," says Ramos. "But what I realize, which you find by the end of this movie, all you gotta do is love yourself and believe in yourself, and continue to be your truest self."

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### WEEKEND: MOVIES



By Ann Hornaday The Washington Post

he skeptics scoffed when they heard that Bradley Cooper had decided to make his directorial debut with yet another remake of "A Star Is Born." What could this relative newcomer to the Hollywood hierarchy possibly bring to one of show business Vir.-myths of ambition, self-destruction and the cruel vagaries of fame?

Admittedly, casting Lady Gaga as an unknown singer who becomes a pop sensation was a masterstroke. But would anyone seriously buy the boyishly handsome Cooper as a wasted, washed-up has-been?

It turns out Cooper is not only a judicious and instinctive storyteller behind the camera, but he delivers one of the finest performances of his career in "A Star Is Born," a well-seasoned, handsomely cured slab of showbiz schmaltz that hits all the right pleasure centers. With equal parts glitz and grit, Cooper has successfully navigated the most perilous shoals of making a classic narrative his own, managing to create one of its best iterations to date.

Appropriately enough, "A Star Is Born" begins on stage, when Cooper's character, Jackson Maine, takes a handful of pills and a swig of gin to make it through a packed arena concert. Brandishing a stylish green guitar with scowling swagger, Jackson furiously tears through one of his signature rootsy, hard-driving hits. Filming the sequence in urgent close-ups, Cooper plunges audiences into the deafening world of stardom at its most engulfing peak, made all

the more numbing by the cushioned silence of the limo that picks Jackson up after the show.

Desperate for one more drink, the rock star stops in at a little nightculu, where a waitress named Ally delivers a sensationally torchy version of "La Vie en Rose" in the midst of sundry drag routines. He's smitten, and who wouldn't be after the most adorable meet-cute of the year, during which a spirited Greek chorus of trans women comment lustily from the sidelines?

Viewers familiar with previous versions of "A Star Is Born" — whose narrative structure goes almost as far back as the medium itself — will already be bracing themselves for what's to come. But Cooper allows the audience to revel in Jackson and Ally's fliritations and courtship, which comes into florid bloom along with the tingly excitement of proximate fame, naked desire and unstoppable creativity.

Part of the fun of "A Star Is Born" is watching Ally, who lives with her star-struck dad (Andrew Dice Clay), predict to be immune to the seductions Jackson has to offer, which are sexual but also aspirational. When she finally succumbs, the audience does, too. And when he brings her on stage for her big breakout, and Gaga lets loose with those pipes, the moment is electrifying.

Of course, nothing gold can stay. As Jackson and Ally's fates intersect, collide and finally, fatally diverge, "A Star Is Born" lives up to the operatic tragedy hinted at by the arias that often play in the background. Cooper handles those tonal shifts with confidence as well, as sweaty immediacy becomes something more intimate and soul-baring.

As an actress, Gaga might not yet possess the range she

has as a singer, but with the help of editor Jay Cassidy, the film is shaped to make the most of her gifts. There are sequences in "A Star Is Born" when it feels like a showdown between the best eyes in the business. It's when she sings that she comes radiantly into her own, claiming the screen as totally as Ally claims the spotlight when her turn comes.

In a sly turn, Cooper seems to be doing his best Sam Elliott impersonation until the real Sam Elliott shows up, and it's clear he's delivering a performance-within-a-performance, for reasons that become clear in a clewerly choreographed reveal. There are a few awkward transitions and slightly choppy patches in "AS tar Is Born" but Cooper keeps the story on the rails, even when his characters are owing off them.

And it's not just Jackson who slips: As Ally becomes more successful, she starts to resemble a parody of a pop tartlet: one part Britney, one part Katy and no part real. As a study in artifice and authenticity, "A Star is Born" offers a suitably jaundiced glimpee of star-making machinery at its most cynical, but also its most thrilling and gratifying. In many ways it's a paean to the recognition of talent, at its purest and most wild.

And it's a reminder that self-preservation is crucial to stewarding that untamed force. It's Ally—and Gaga—who owns the spotlight, stage and screen by the end of "A Star Is Born," which Cooper has succeeded in making earthly convincing and lavishly, deliciously larger-than-life at the same time.

"A Star Is Born" is rated R for coarse language throughout, some sexuality, nudity and substance abuse. Running time: 136 minutes.

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For even the 74-year-old veteran actor Elliott, "A Star Is Born" has been cause for reflection on his own path. For decades, Elliott, with his sonorous drawl and trademark mustache, has been resolutely himself, in any role.

"Nobody's ever going to confuse me with a chameleon. I'm just not one of those kind of actors," says Elliott. "Ben Johnson told me one time: 'I might not be a very good actor, but nobody else can play Ben Johnson better than I can.' And that somehow resonated with me. It was about character. It was about integrity. It was about what makes up the man."

Gaga, who has rallied her fans ("little more than the state of the state of the state of the coptance, says she identifies equally with her character and with the more troubled Jackson. The pop star has previously been forthright about her struggles with mental health, and has said she was raped at age 19.

"Jackson's plight in the film and his substance abuse, it really stays with me. The mental health aspect, the substance abuse aspect, the trauma aspect. I told Bradley right after we watched it in Venice that I had to take 30 minutes to myself in a back room somewhere," says Gaga. "If I act again, the experience has to be as deep as this one or it wouldn't be fulfilling to me."

this one or it wouldn't be fulfilling to me.' Cooper, too, says "A Star Is Born" has altered him.

"I find myself thinking of lines Jackson says often, just in terms of taking on a new project: What am I trying to say and how am I going to say it?" the 43-year-old says. "Any other project that comes after this, I just have to be brutally honest with myself and listen to Jackson."

Ramos' success recently inspired his own older brother to — like Ally does in the film — quit his job and "go for it." After "A Star Is Born" opens in theaters Friday, more walkouts might follow; more stars ready to be born.

"Everybody quit their job!" jokes Ramos. "Naw, not everyone can quit. We need some people working."

#### Weekend: Movies



# line between good and evil

By RICK BENTLEY Tribune News Service

he Marvel Cinematic Universe's norm is there's no doubt about who's good and who's bad. Think of Thanos, the Vulture or Dr. Doom. There's plenty of conflict in director Ruben Fleischer's ("Zombieland") action-filled "Venom," but there's a lot more gray area when it comes to the characters.

Even the film's central figure of Venom is hard to peg because once the space-traveling Symbiote arrives on Earth, he ends up in the body of no-nonsense journalist Eddie Brock. What the two do together often crosses the line between good and evil.

Then there's Carlton Drake (Riz Ahmed), a billionaire who aims to seek sanctuary in space when Earth is no longer inhabitable, who's behind events that set most of the storylines in motion. The question is whether Drake should be considered good or bad.

Ahmed understands there are some real-world parallels to the character he plays, but none of them were a blueprint to create the complicated character of Drake. He took bits and pieces of a lot of people and blended that with what he saw in the comics where Drake appeared. The character first appeared in "The Amazing Spider-Man" No. 298.

Drake became a more important character in "Venom" because unlike in the comic book origin, there is no connection to Spider-Man. That's why Ahmed's got more time to play Drake's many layers.

"My character is someone who is very well-intentioned," says Ahmed, whose past works include "The Night Of" and "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story." "He's doing a very ambitious thing. That same ambition that drives that initial mission kind of overtakes him.

"I don't think of him as a bad guy. I don't think he's greedy or trying to hurt anyone. He's just trying to make sure the human species evolves. Now, granted, he thinks he's the pinnacle of human evolution as we already have it. There is an element of narcissism

# Riz Ahmed, Reid Scott play complicated roles in 'Venom'

about him as he has a hunger for greatness.'

The hunger is what ends up giving Brock an alien version of a Jekyll and Hyde personality as he deals with Venom. The pair become so close that Venom even gives Brock some

dating advice about his ex, Anne (Michelle Williams).

"The love triangle allows for the character to be seen in many ways," says Reid Scott, who plays Anne's new boyfriend.

"We wanted to see him as an adviser—at least from Eddie's point of view — because he's with Eddie's ex-girlfriend. We had a lot of fun with that because I tried to approach the character in that he got a huge kick out of Eddie Brock



The fact that he's always been a fan of Eddie Brock makes for a nice bit of tension. In a movie like this, it's all about heightening the stakes. The ultimate stake being saving the world, but all the way down the line he can't even get the woman back he loves because she's fallen for somebody else.'

It's not just the roles that are complicated. The actors also have résumés that reflect a blend of comedy and drama. Scott has starred in a broad range of television projects from the deeply dramatic

"The Big C" to the political comedy "Veep." For Ahmed, this is the second big action movie for him, but he also has worked on small films like "Nightcrawler."

Ahmed says the size of the production doesn't change how he approaches each role.

Each character belongs in their own world with their own reality and their own set of circumstances. You just have to commit to that," Ahmed says.

Scott describes going from a comedy like "Veep" to a dark action movie such as "Venom" as his way of making sure no one forgets he can play a wide variety of roles. Now that "Veep" is coming to an end, Scott is trying to decide what acting road he wants to take next. He sees his role in "Venom" as a perfect bridge because the character is so complicated.

In the case of "Venom," both Ahmed and Scott had to commit to highly textured characters. Blending good and evil is a lot like mixing sharps and flats in a musical composition. Ahmed's aware of how music can represent a lot of different things because he has been performing as a rap artist under the name Riz MC. His new single, "Mogambo," was released last week.

# 'Venom' is a fun. fascinating mess

By KATIE WALSH Tribune News Service

uperhero fatigue got you down? Tired of the same old bland Marvel Cinematic Universe offerings? A dose of "Venom" could be just the right antidote. This dark, wacky MCU-as sociated outing combines one of the most interesting contemporary leading men with a daring director who has a hit-or-miss track record. Throw an outlandish alien organism into the mix, shake well with a healthy serving of irreverent humor and you've got "Venom.

It's a mess, but wow, is it ever a fun, fascinating mess.
Tom Hardy plays Eddie Brock, intrepid San Francisco investigative reporter and unwilling host body for alien Symbiote Venom. Although director Ruben Fleischer uses every tool in his cinematic arsenal, Hardy is firmly in charge here, steering this ship straight to Crazytown. One can't help but wonder if Hardy is pulling the greatest trick any actor ever has on a multi-million dollar Hollywood comic book movie, because his insane performance as the edgy Eddie feels like an elaborate troll, like Hardy might be a Trojan horse, or the parasite itself feeding on the MCU from the inside out. He's in full-on crazy-eyed "Wuthering Heights" mode, colored shades of "Bronson" physical intensity, while using his own heavy Brooklyn accent from "The Drop." He's absolutely riveting, and hilarious.

The first half is a character study, juxtaposing the freewheeling but principled reporter Eddie with nemesis Carlton Drake (Riz Ahmed), a shady biotech entrepreneur and Elon Musk type who would rather inhabit outer space than try to disrupt climate change and has a shocking disregard for human life. After receiving a tip from Dr. Skirth (Jenny Slate), Eddie breaks into a lab hoping to collect evidence that Drake has been abusing and killing homeless people for Symbiote trials. Venom inhabits Eddie's body and turns him into an unlikely killing machine, black tar tentacles propelling the bewildered human around the streets of San Francisco in a reluctant rampage.

By far the best part of "Venom" is the chemistry between Eddie and his parasite, Venom himself, who is cheeky and sardonic for an alien. They bicker like a married couple over when to eat, what to eat (there are rules about whose heads Venom is allowed to chomp), and how to approach Eddie's ex-girlfriend, Anne (Michelle Williams)

Their banter is funny, intentionally so, and Hardy's wild-eyed performance and quirky asides invite you to laugh at the silly madness of it all. The supporting cast of Ahmed, Williams, Slate and Reid Scott, who plays Anne's new boyfriend, Dr. Dan, is game to go along on Hardy's wild ride, with heightened performances that come with a big wink.

One flaw "Venom" shares with other superhero comic book movies is big third act problems, clouded by muddy character motivations and even muddier CGI. Two Symbiotes fight for dominance, their shiny, slick, 'roided tar bodies clashing and melding in a disposable and disappointing battle. Hardy and Fleischer do manage to reel it back to that bizarre but charming tone they've created, and amazingly, for all of the wild weirdness and wackadoo mess, this character is, shockingly, one we'd be happy to spend more time with, thanks to Hardy.

"Venom" is rated PG-13 for sci-fi violence and action, and for language. Running time: 112 minutes.



In "Venom," Tom Hardy stars as a reporter who becomes the host to an extraterrestrial Symbiote.

## WEEKEND: QUICK TRIPS



#### St. Peter's dome

St. Peter's Basilica, completed in 1626, is the largest Christian church in the world and one of the renowned feats of the Renaissance Michelangelo designed the dome.

You can tour the basilica for free but must pay to ascend to the dome's top level. You pay 8 euros to walk up all 551 steps and 10 euros if you choose to take an elevator to shave off 230 stens.

It's a good workout, and your labor is ewarded.

On the way to the top, you walk under the dome and can look down at the crowds milling about in the basilica's main area. From the top, you gaze out at St. Peter's Square, Rome and beyond.



PHOTOS BY SCOTT WYLAND/Stars and String

#### **Palatine Hill**

This hill is located near the Colosseum in an ancient part of the city. It is thought to be the birthplace of Augustus, Rome's first emperor, who built a palace and a temple to Apollo there. Successive emperors such as Tiberius and Domitian also lived in palatial villas there.

Guided tours of the hill are generally bundled with a Colosseum tour for about \$60. If you want just the view, you can step onto a fairly steep path in the Forum and walk for the top at no cost.

On one side, Palatine Hill overlooks the former Circus Maximus, where epic chariot races were held. That is now just a bare field. A more sumptuous view is on the side that looks out over the Forum, the adjacent Colosseum and an older section of the city.

# From on HIGH

Take in beautiful views of Rome from these lookout points

By Scott Wyland Stars and Stripes

ost people travel to Rome to see its aesthetic marvels up close, whether they're the Sistine Chapel's frescoes, the Colosseum's arches or the ornate sculptures in the city's famous fountains.

But viewing larger expanses of Rome from up high treats you to a more sweeping beauty. The various sections built during different periods in its 2,800-year history form a giant mosaic.

A much-touted vantage point is the Colosseum's top floor, which opened last year after being closed for decades. But the average cost is about \$80 per person.

There are places you can go that offer better views of the city at little or no cost if you're willing to walk up some stairs or a hill.



#### Pincian Hill

This large hilltop park with a large, terracelike lookout point was created about 1820. Its name comes from the Pincii family, which lived there about the year 400

At the Piazza del Popolo, you walk up a stainway and then a moderately steep path. It gives you a clear, bird's-eye view of the Piazza del Popolo as well as an array of churches, including St. Peter's Basilica. The domes, bell towers and the buildings' reddish-brown, yellow and brown hues make this view especially striking.

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#### Altar of the Fatherland

The Altar of the Fatherland is a massive, pillared building embellished with sculpted angels, horses and heroic male figures that stands near the heart of Rome. The monument was dedicated to Victor Emmanuel, the first king of a unified Italy, and was completed in 1925.

You go up several flights of stairs to reach the floor where, for 10 euros (\$11.70), you take an elevator to the rooftop terrace. From there, you have a panoramic view in several directions.

There's often little wait to get on the elevator. This rooftop, which offers perhaps the most all-encompassing view of Rome, is a lesser-known gem.

### ON THE QT

### DIRECTIONS The sites listed here are within walking distance of Centro Storico,

the city's core area. You also can take a taxi or bus to these sites.

#### COSTS

Altar of the Fatherland's elevator costs 10 euros (\$11.70). St. Peter's Dome costs 8 euros to ascend entirely by stairs, and 10 euros for an elevator part of the way. The Colosseum's upper-floor tours cost 70-90 euros. Look at TripAdvisor for tour options.

#### FOOD

A variety of restaurants can be found near all of the spots listed.

#### INFORMATION

For information online about the Altar of the Fatherland: tinyurl.

St. Peter's Basilica and dome: tinyurl.com/ycthpq8m.

- Scott Wyland

### WEEKEND: TRAVEL

#### Europe

# **Italy's Riviera: Beyond the Cinque Terre**

hen it comes to basking in the beauty of the Italian Riviera, the Cinque Terre is tops for me. But there's much more to this region on the Mediterranean coast than those famous five villages

A handful of charming towns lie within an hour of the Cinque Terre, with posh ports set against rugged mountain backdrops that have drawn poets, authors and romantics over the years from Lord Byron to Elizabeth Taylor.

To the north of the Cinque Terre is a trio of beach towns: Levanto, the northern gateway to the Cinque Terre; Sestri Levante, stunningly situated on a narrow peninsula flanked by two beaches; and Santa Margherita Ligure, a thriving city with an active waterfront and easy connections to yacht-happy Portofino. At the south end of the Cinque Terre is the pretty resort of Porto Venere.

When most people imagine the "Italian Riviera," they're thinking of the shimmering resort towns north of the Cinque Terre, with their big, stately, Old World hotels looming over crowded pebble beaches. Here, fastidiously landscaped parks and promenades are jammed with more Italians than Americans.

These towns can be user-friendly home bases for day trips along the Riviera coast, but they're also worth visiting in their own right.

Levanto, just minutes north by train of the Cinque Terre resort town Monterosso. is the handiest. Graced with a long, sandy beach, it's packed in summer with surfers and families. The rest of the year, it's just a small, sleepy town with kids playing in the square and locals whizzing around on bicycles. Levanto also offers an easy, level hike (or bike ride) to the sleepy village of Bonassola. Serious hikers can do the no-wimps-allowed hike to Monterosso.

A bit farther away, and with a little less train service, is Sestri Levante, a charming town on a peninsula squeezed



as skinny as a hot dog between two crescent heaches One of the bays – Baia delle Favole - is named in honor of Hans Christian Andersen, who visited in the mid-1800s (favole means

fairy tale"). The most appealing town

north of the Cinque Terre — but also the most distant (one hour by train) — is Santa Margherita Ligure. This easygoing, old-school resort town has an enjoyable urban bustle and a handful of sights (including the Baroque Basilica of Santa Margherita), along with easy access to posh Portofino, While Portofino's velour allure is tarnished by a nonstop traffic jam in peak season, Santa Margherita Ligure has a breezy harborfront with a beach promenade, and its aristocratic architecture hints at old money.

From Santa Margherita Ligure, vou can take a bus to Portofino, but a boat makes the 15-minute trip with more class and scenery, and without the traffic jams. You can also hike between the towns.

Portofino is the movie star's Italian Riviera. The yacht-harbor resort with grand scenery - and its sleek jewelry shops, art galleries and haute couture boutiques



A bike ride between Levanto and the sleepy village of Bonassola offers up views of the Italian Riviera's stunning coastline.

filling a humble village shell - has the sheen of new money. It's the kind of place where the sailing masts are taller than the houses and church steeples. But the piccolo harbor, classic Italian architecture and wooded peninsula make Portofino an appealing destination nonetheless

More out of the way (and better as a day trip) is Porto Venere, south of the Cinque Terre. This enchanting seafront village is perfect for a scenic boat or bus ride. An antidote to the gritty transportation hub of La Spezia just around the bay, this enchanting resort is as scenic as the Cinque

Terre towns - but with a bit of glitz. The village clings to a rocky, fortress-crowned promontory. A rainbow of tall, skinny pastel facades rises up from an inviting harborfront promenade.

Whether it's glitz and glamour, beach relaxation or hearty hiking that inspires you, choose one or more of these gems for a classic Italian Riviera experience.

Rick Steves (www.ricksteves.com) writes European travel guidebooks and hosts travel shows on public television and public radio. Email him at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on

## TOP TRAVEL PICKS

#### Non-stop culture and sleepless nights

To those with a smattering of French, the phrase "nuit blanche" might suggest those heady nights of spring when the skies stay light until all hours. The phrase in fact refers to a sleepless night, perhaps brought on by a bout of insomnia.

The Nuits Blanches of Paris and Brussels, both scheduled for Oct. 6, are evenings in which the reason for the lack of sleep stems from the overwhelming choice of things to do. The following takes a look at what the programs of two great capitals have in store for us this year.

Paris: the Nuit Blanche con-

cept was born here back in 2002, an idea that's since gone global. The home of the original offers avant-garde projects of international artists including installations, exhibitions, concerts. dance, theater, staged tableaux, walking trails and more. Many museums also offer exceptional opening hours late into the night.

This year's action is arranged in four geographical groupings referred to as constellations, each with its own focus and vibe. Les Invalides offers a "Super Kilometer" with food and artistic interpretations of sport, along with performances staged by London-based choreographer Jamila Johnson Small At L'ile Saint-Louis, visitors can experience a sense of time travel



Karen Bradbury

Read more about things to do in the Europe Traveler blog: stripes.com/blogs/europe-traveler

as they pass by all-but-hidden works on medieval lanes into a modern world where art fuses with science and commerce. At La Villette, music is at the forefront, and the Cite des Enfants hosts a program geared to young visitors. At La Porte Doree, in the outskirts of town, the tour passes by a lake and the city zoo.

Four info points hand out maps and dispense advice from 5 p.m. until 2 a.m. the following day; one of these is found at the square by the City Hall (Hotel de Ville). Public transportation runs along several routes throughout the night; use of this is free. The last of the events concludes around 7 a.m. Online: tinyurl. com/y7mcyr5y

Brussels: Nuit Blanche in the Belgian capital is described by its organizers as a celebration of contemporary art presented in a manner that makes it accessible to all. Its installations, performances and itinerant projects unveil themselves by means of a walking tour that winds through both well-trod and less touristed corners of the city, including the working class but trendy Ma rolles neighborhood.

In remembrance of events dating back to May 1968, this year's edition aligns with the theme '2018 — Year of Protest." A look at this year's agenda reveals projects the likes of Body Revolutions, in which three mummy men merge into projections of bombed-out Arab cities; Mars II, an apocalyptic video installation in which volcanic ash envelops a pianist as a parallel to the perils facing humanity; and D-Construction, in which dancers move around a metallic structure that serves as both playground and constraint.

Events run from 7 p.m. until 3 a.m. the following day. An information point at the Place du Jeu de Balle hands out brochures and offers tips for visitors. The Noctis nighttime public transportation system offers free service from midnight to 3 a.m. Entry to Nuit Blanche is free. Online: nuitblanche.brussels

#### Nuts in Vianden

The crowning glory of Vianden, a quaint town nestled in the Ardennes region of Luxembourg,



Nuit Blanche in Paris offers avant-garde projects through the night of Oct. 6. Brussels also holds its own Nuit Blanche events that night.

is an imposing, 11th-century Romanesque castle. Steep cobble-stone streets, window boxes bursting with flowers, and a gurgling river complete the picture of a rural idyll: a fine backdrop for an event which fetes a locally grown product and exudes the spirit of autumn.

Once October comes, it's once again time for Vianden's annual Nessmoort, or walnut market. Although the market is a single-day affair - Oct. 7 this year — preparations begin long before that. In the spring, when the walnuts are just tiny green knobs and the shells have yet to harden, they're harvested, put into brandy, aged and sweetened, the result of which is an earthy, herbal schnapps believed to work wonders on an aching belly. In addition to healing po-

tions, visitors to the well-visited market can sample and purchase nut-based treats such as rustic breads, coarse pates, cheese, sausages and other treats. Some vendors' products are meant to be consumed on the spot, while others make fine seasonal gifts.

The market is in full swing from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. Vianden is located about 45 minutes west of Bitburg, Germany. Entry is free. Medieval towns and heavy traffic don't mix, so a free shuttle service from the local Park & Ride stands ready to whisk visitors into the thick of things. Online: tinyurl.com/yau76cdt

### WEEKEND: FOOD & DINING



PHOTOS BY JOHN VANDIVER/Stars and Stripes

nd Cafe Planie, in the heart of downtown Stuttgart, is a popular eatery near the Schlossplatz.

# **After Hours: Germany**

By John Vandiver Stars and Stripes

fternoon cake and coffee: It's as German a thing as beer, brats and the population's rigid adherence to pedestrian traffic lights.

In Stuttgart, Grand Cafe Planie is perhaps the most obvious choice for a midday indulgence in something sweet. For me, Cafe Planie is a reliable go-to spot, especially when hosting out-of-town guests or newcomers. The interior has an instant appeal, with a classical old-world flair that's an antidote to the cookie-cutter style of Starbucks and its imitators. The building, converted to a cafe at some point in the early 20th century, was once a horse stable and later an orphanage.

To be sure, Stuttgart has lots of cafes that march to a hipper beat, but Cafe Planie is a must at least once, if not more, for anyone stationed

I've been many times, and the various cakes, made on site, never fail to impress. The offerings abound: cheesecakes, various chocolate varieties, torts and fruity ensembles. They're less sugary than the kind of thing you get from many American bakers. But they're sweet enough to satisfy and not exceed your weekly sugar allowance in a single sitting.

In the afternoon, things can get crowded, especially on the weekends, when the seniors a demographic that knows a thing or two about "Kaffee und Kuchen" - come plowing through on their walkers. You've got to move quickly when a place opens up.

The seating is a mix of tables and booths of various shapes, some long, some cut into a cozy corner. Big colorful paintings cover the walls, making for an artsy vibe. Chandeliers, cherrywood tables and a marble counter add to the atmosphere.

Location is another selling point: Cafe Planie is around the corner from the city's Old and New Castles and the city's main square, Schlossplatz.

The cafe offers a lot more than cake. It serves breakfast, lunch and dinner and does a good job of each with a mix of local specialties and conti-nental cuisine. But most folks come for the cake.

When you visit, be sure to investigate the big glass display to see which cakes you find appealing. If the battle for a seat tests your patience, you can get one to go.



Stuttgart's Grand Cafe Planie is especially popular for an afternoon serving of cake and coffee, something that seems to be a daily ritual for many Germans. There are usually more than a dozen cakes to choose from.



### GRAND CAFE PLANIE

Location: Charlottenplatz 17, Stuttgart, Germany

Hours: Daily, 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. Dress: Casual

Prices: Slices of cake are about 5 euros (\$6); main dinner courses are 10-25 euros (\$12-

Menu: Available in English Information: Phone: (+49) (0) 711-292-553, website: grandcafeplanie.de

- John Vandiver



PHOTO BY TOM McCorkle; FOOD STYLING BY LISA CHERKASKY/For The Wash

# Tips for better baking

By BECKY KRYSTAL The Washington Post

More than any other type of cooking, baking dishes out as much heartbreak as joy: Fallen cakes. Soupy pies. Cookies that crumble. If you've been burned by baking - or simply burned your baked goods — you may wonder whether it's just you. It probably is.

Just joking, of course — but even if you are in fact doing something wrong, that doesn't mean you can't fix it.

And who better to learn from than Rose Levy Beranbaum? She's been writing authoritative, comprehensive baking cookbooks for almost 40 years. Her latest -- "Rose's Baking Basics" - takes aim at beginning bakers, complete with step-by-step photos, concise and clear directions, and a wealth of "baking pearls that share tips, hows and whys.

Here is some advice from Beranbaum to help you become a better, more confident baker:

Follow the directions. Real talk: "If you don't want to follow directions, it's better to make savory dishes," Beranbaum says. "Baking is best for precise people," or people who give up their idea of how a recipe should be made at least the first time they attempt it. Do you really need to whip those egg whites separately? Does the dough really have to be kneaded that long? The answer is probably yes.

Corollary: Read the recipe preferably multiple times — before you do anything. Not only do you want to make sure you have all the ingredients you need, you also want to have a good idea of what all the steps are in advance. That way you don't run into any surprises, especially if something is time-sensitive.

Be wary of substitutions. Baking is often so much about chemistry that ingredients aren't necessarily interchangeable. If you are bound and determined to swap things in a recipe, "The first time, make it the way it's written," Beranbaum suggests. "Otherwise you'll never know what you're supposed to be getting." Flours and sugars are two main baking ingredients that can have a dramatic effect on your results. Changing flours, for example, can alter the structure and density of a baked good. Sugars differ in flavor, texture and how they interact with water, so using the wrong one can also

But don't be afraid to make a recipe your own. Have I killed your intrepid spirit yet? I hope not, because there are plenty of ways you can tweak a baking recipe. In fact, Beranbaum's new book is heavily sprinkled with "Make This Recipe Your Own" sidebars that provide suggestions on A-OK substitutions. She gets it: "People want to put their own imprint on something, and that's so often why they want to substitute," she says. Some of the best places to start playing around are add-ins: chocolate chips, dried fruit, nuts. You can experiment with different extracts and flavored simple syrups (even alcohol, where liquor is used for flavor). Spices, within reason, are ripe for personal preference.

Pay attention to temperature It's more than just a matter of how comfortable you feel 'Temperature is everything in baking," Beranbaum says. It's important to follow the directions when a recipe calls for ingredients to be at a certain temperature. Often, that means room temperature. Beranbaum says the sweet spot for roomtemp butter is 65 to 75 degrees. Eggs are another ingredient frequently brought to room temperature (if you forget or are in a rush, you can place the eggs in a bowl of warm water for 5 minutes). Beranbaum: "If the ingredients are off when you're mixing, there's no hope" in, say, a batter. Ingredients at the wrong temperature won't blend together as well, and you might not incorporate the right amount of air for proper lift.

Measure carefully. Just as recipes can be affected by which ingredient you use, they can be impacted by how much you use. So, yes, as most dedicated bakers will tell you, weight is the most accurate method for measuring (not to mention easier, because everything can be measured into a single bowl where appropriate). There's often a lot of variation when it comes to measuring by volume, thanks to cups of differing sizes.

As to why more home cooks and the recipe developers writing for them — don't rely on weight, Beranbaum suspects it feels too scientific. But as we've established, science and precision are good, even crucial, in baking! So consider investing in a kitchen scale and using weight measures where provided.

#### vandiver.john@stripes.com Twitter: @john\_vandiver



# Tourism threatens Croatia's 'Game of Thrones' town

By Dusan Stojanovic Associated Press

arc van Bloemen has lived in the old town of Dubrovnik, a Croatian citadel widely praised as the since he was a child. He says it used to be a privilege. Now it's a nightmare.

Crowds of tourists clog the entrances to the ancient walled city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, as huge cruise ships unload thousands more daily. People bump into each other on the famous limestone-paved Stradun, the pedestrian street lined with medieval churches and plateces, as fans of the popular TV series "Game of Thrones" search for the locations where it was filmed.

Dubrovnik is a prime example of the effects of mass tourism, a global phenomenon in which the increase in people traveling means standout sites — particularly small ones — get overwhelmed by crowds. As the numbers of visitors keeps rising, local authorities are looking for ways to keep the throngs from killing off the town's charm.

"It's beyond belief. It's like living in the middle of Disneyland," says van Bloemen from his house overlooking the bustling Old Harbor in the shadows of the stone city walls.

On a typical day there are about eight cruise ships visiting this town of 2,500 people, each dumping some 2,000 tourists into the streets. He recalls one day when 13 ships anchored here.

"We feel sorry for ourselves, but also for them (the tourists) because they can't feel the town anymore because they are knocking into other tourists," he said. "It's chaos; the whole thing is chaos."

The problem is hurting Dubrovnik's reputation. UNESCO warned last year that the city's world heritage title was at risk because of the surge in tourist numbers.

The popular Discoverer travel blog recently wrote that a visit to the historic town "is a highlight of any Croatian vacation, but the crowds that pack its narrow streets and



PHOTOS BY DARKO BANDIC/AP

Tourists are filling the entrances of the walled city of Dubrovnik, above and top, as cruise ships, below, unload thousands of tourists each day. "We are aware of the crowds," said Romana Vlasic, head of the town's tourist board. Vlasic says that more than 800,000 tourists visited Dubrovnik since the start of 2018. That's a 6 percent increase from the same period last year. One of the reason for so many visitors? "Game of Thrones" is filmed here.



passageways don't make for a quality visitor experience."

It said that the extra attention the city gets from being a filming location for "Game of Thrones" combines with the cruise ship arrivals to create "a problem of epic proportions."

It advises travelers to visit other quaint old towns nearby: "Instead of trying to be one of the lucky ones who gets a ticket to Dubrovnik's sites, try the delightful town of Ohrid in nearby Macedonia."

In 2017, local authorities announced a Respect the City plan that limits the number of tourists from cruise ships to a maximum of 4,000 at any one time during the day. The plan still has to be implemented, however. "We are aware of the crowds," said Romana

Vlasic, the head of the town's tourist board.

But while on the one hand she pledged to curb the number of visitors, Vlasic noted with some satisfaction that this season in Dubrownik "is really good with a slight increase in numbers." The success of the Croatian national soccer team at this summer's World Cup, where it reached the final, helped bring new tourists.

Vlasic said that more than 800,000 tourists visited Dubrovnik since the start of the year, a 6 percent increase from the same period last year. Overnight stays were up 4 percent to 3 million.

The cruise ships pay the city harbor docking fees, but the local businesses get very little money from the visitors, who have all-inclusive packages on board the ship and spend very little on local restaurants or shops.

Krunoslav Djuricic, who plays his electric guitar at Pile, one of the two main entrances of Dubrovnik's walled city, sees the crowds pass by him all day and believes that "mass tourism might not be what we really need."

The tourists disembarking from the cruise ships have only a few hours to visit the city, meaning they often rush around to see the sites and take selfies to post to social media.

"We have crowds of people who are simply running," Djuricic says. "Where are these people running to?"

#### How to bid on, and win, an airline seat upgrade

Four days before my 17-hour flight from Washington to Malawi, I received an email with more exclamation marks than an electronics store advertising a liquidation sale.

'Last Chance! Get Upgraded on your Ethiopian Airlines flight!" the subject heading read.

"There's only a short time left to get you upgraded!" said the body of the text. "Not every flight qualifies for this new option, but fortunately for you, your upcom-ing flight is eligible!"

The airline was inviting me, a simple coach traveler, to bid on a business-class seat. If I played the game right, I could end up floating over three continents plus an ocean in the cushy Cloud Nine cabin. For this privilege, I just had to submit a dollar amount and wait for the airline to accept or deny my offer.

There is no downside to doing it," said Christine Sarkis, deputy executive editor at SmarterTravel.com, who has bid on several international flights. "It adds an element of excitement and hope to the part of your trip that you are least looking forward to.

Ethiopian Airlines is one of many airlines offering travelers the chance to upgrade through a blind auction. (Other participants include Lufthansa, Cathay Pacific, Virgin Australia, Singapore Airlines, China Airlines and Saudi Arabian Airlines.) The process is similar to eBay: On qualifying flights, the airline will set a minimum amount for each leg of your trip. To help you make an educated guess, the carrier provides a pricing meter ranging from "poor" to "excellent." You can submit a bid at the time of booking or later through an email invitation from the airline. Then you wait. If the airline rejects the amount, it will not charge you for trying. If it accepts the price, it will add the new charges to your economy fare. At the airport, you will receive a new ticket, and you are free to celebrate your elite status in the VIP lounge.

To improve your odds, Sarkis shared a few tips. First, look for flights that might be desperate for your money, such as routes that are more popular with budget-conscious leisure travelers than expense-account business travelers. The airlines will want to fill those empty premium seats, even for a couple hundred dollars. Consider flying during off-peak times of the day or year, and on shorter routes and larger planes. Before you commit, check the occupancy rate of your flight on ExpertFlyer. If the plane is a ghost town, bid lower; if it's packed, go higher.

Sarkis said many people submit the minimum amount To gain an advantage over these folks, bid 20 to 40 percent higher than the lowest figure. "That's the sweet spot," she said. Also, don't get carried away with bidding: If the airline accepts your requests for all two or four legs of your trip, you could end up paying thousands of dollars in upgrades. Before raising the paddle, think about when you will have the strength for coach and when you will require coddling in a premium class.

Andrea Sachs The Washington Post

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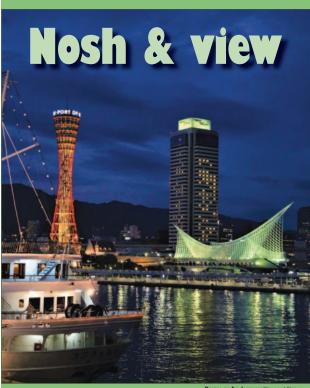
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### WEEKEND: QUICK TRIPS

# Pacific



PHOTOS BY AYA ICHIHASHI/Stars and Stripes

Visitors at Kobe Harbor can catch a glimpse of the city's iconic Kobe Port Tower, which is often illuminated at night.

# Go to Kobe for the beef, stay for the pork buns and European cityscapes



The outside of Roshoki's famous pork buns is fluffy and sweet, while the inside is perfectly seasoned and juicy.



A giant gate greets visitors to Nankinmachi, Kobe's Chinatown

#### By Aya Ichihashi Stars and Stripes

ocated just one hour by train from Kyoto and just 30 minutes by train from Osaka, Kobe is a port town that rose to prominence in the 1860s as a hub for foreign trade in Japan. The city is well known for its role in helping popularize a variety of western commodities throughout the country — including western-style clothing and coffee.

These days, Kobe still shows signs of its roots as a multicultural and global city, with European-style buildings and a thriving Chinatown among some of the area's most popular tourist attractions.

I always enjoy walking around Kobe's Motomachi neighborhood — also known as Kyukyoryuchi, which means former foreign settlement — asi feels more Parisian than Japanese. The area was originally designed by British merchants who settled in Kobe during the late 19th century, and many of the brick and stone buildings in the neighborhood areminiscent of buildings found in Western countries from the same time period.

During World War II, more than 70 percent of these historic build-70 percent of these historic build-70 percent of the ground. In 1995, the Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake destroyed an additional 22 buildings in Motomachi. Now, just 82 of the neighborhood's original buildings remain.

Another popular historic neighborhood in Kobe once fashionable with the city's foreign residents is Kitano Ijinkan, which was built to accommodate the population of Western merchants and diplomats who flocked to Kobe in the early 1900s. Much like Motomachi, Kitano Ijinjan was heavily affected by WWII and several natural disasters, and only around 30 of the area's original buildings remain today.

Nankinmachi, Kobe's Chinatown, is immediately adjacent to the Kyukyoryuchi area — it is very hard to miss, as a giant gate greets visitors to the neighborhood. Nankinmachi is one of the biggest Chinatowns in Japan, and features more than 100 shops selt ing a variety of traditional Chinese and Chinese-influenced sweets and snacks.

My favorite food item sold in Nankimmachi is butamanju— a type of steamed pork bun filled with flavorful minced meat and green onion. Gutamanju is more commonly known by its shortened name, butaman, throughout Japan.)

Pork buns were first brought to Japan in the early 20th century and popularized by Roshoki, which opened in Kobe in 1915. The shop still sells the same pork buns (90 yen apiece, or about 80 cents) and is an iconic fixture in Nankinmachi, with patrons lining up around the block to sample its most famous menu item. Visitors to Roshoki can often expect to wait upwards of 30 minutes for their pork buns — but the moist, delicious buns are well worth the wait.

The pork buns at Roshoki are always fresh, and they're small enough that the average diner can easily eat three or four in one sitting. The outside of the bun is fluffy and sweet, while the inside

### ON THE QT

#### DIRECTIONS

Kobe is located on Osaka Bay in Japan's Hyogo prefecture. The city is easily reached by highway bus, plane and high-speed rail and can be reached by car from most major metropolitan areas in Japan. The city is serviced by the Kobe Airport, as well as the Kansai International Airport. From Kyoto and Osaka, the train is the fastest and most economical option, with trips from Kyoto starting at 1,080 yen (about \$9.50) and trips from Osaka starting at 410 yen via the JR Kyoto Line. By train from Tokyo, Kobe is accessible via the JR Tokaido Shinkansen, with one-way tickets starting at 14,000 yen for the 165-minute journey. Highway buses are available for as little as 1,000 yen each way during low season, and many bus operators offer steep discounts for foreign tourists.

#### COSTS

Costs vary depending on mode of transportation and attractions visited — but a Kobe trip can easily be done on a shoestring budget with a bit of proper planning.

#### FOOD

A variety of restaurants is available throughout the city.

— Aya Ichihashi

is perfectly seasoned and juicy. I often have to fight with my friends for the final pork bun — so be sure to order enough, or else you might end up hungry.

Another Nankinmachi standout is Yunyun, which is famous for fried xiaolongbao — better known as soup dumplings — and paitan noodle soup. Xiaolongbao (three pieces for 350 yen) are filled with flavorful broth and minced meat and require a bit of care when eating, as the soup can easily splash across the table when diners bite into the delicate dumpling skins. The paitan noodle soup (400 yen) is quite simple, but the pork and chicken broth make the dish incredibly easy to finish.

For those interested in shopping. Kobe Harbor Land is well worth a visit. There are more than 300 shops and restaurants in the area — some of which offer a chance for tourists to sample the region's conic Kobe beef. Kobe beef is famous for its marbling, which produces an extremely tender and juicy cut of meat. I usually enjoy eating Kobe beef with a hint of wasabi and salt to intensify the aroma of the meat.

From Kobe Harbor Land, tourists can catch a glimpse of the city's iconic Kobe Port Tower, which is often illuminated at night

For those looking to step into a bit of "old Japan" without sacrificing access to contemporary amenities, Kobe offers the perfect mix of vintage allure and 21st century excitement. From world-class beef to upscale shopping, this trendsetting port town has much to offer to anyone traveling throughout Japan—so if you're headed to Kyoto or Osaka, don't forget to make time for Kobe in your timerary.

Ichihashi.aya@stripes.com

### WEEKEND: FOOD & DINING

# **After Hours: Okinawa**

By Carlos M. Vazquez II

Stars and Stripes

oodles are undoubtedly one of Japan's national treasures — but in Okinawa, soba noodles hold a particularly special place in the hearts (and stomachs) of the island's residents. The dish is so popular that every Oct. 17, the island celebrates "Okinawa Soba Day."

Sona Lay."
Unlike the soba noodles found in mainland Japan, which are made from buck-wheat flour, Okinawa soba is made from wheat and can vary drastically by geographical location. Soba lovers in Okinawa all claim to know the best place to grab a bowl on the island — and traveling up and down the island, from the coast to the inland areas, will offer diners a chance to taste different varieties of this beloved dish. Closer to the coast, you're sure to have a fish-based broth. Stay central, and you'll likely encounter a pork broth base.

Before arriving in Okinawa myself, I knew my first off-base dining experience had to offer a taste of Okinawa's culinary heritage—but I was also so drawn to images of the island's stunning ocean views that I decided that any restaurant I visited had to deliver in the scenery department as well

Luckily, Hanakinah Okinawa Soba satisfied both of my requirements for the perfect introduction to the island.

Hanakinah offers diners the best of both worlds when it comes to Okinawa soba, as their broth base combines both fish and pork, making for an unexpected sensory and flavor overload.

Located just a short, five-minute drive from Camp Foster, the restaurant boasts fantastic ocean views and offers a variety of seating arrangements — including a traditional Japanese tatami room area.

The picture-filled menu — which is available in both Japanese and English — features dishes containing everything from pork to seaweed, along with a selection of Okinawa soba. Diners can opt to order dishes individually, or choose from one of the many set meals for a good deal.

I ordered the fried chicken with sweet soy sauce and upgraded my meal to include Okinawan-style mixed rice, a mini soba, salad and tofu (950 yen, or about \$8.40). I was most looking forward to sampling the soba, and the fried chicken and rice paired well with it. In addition to dipping the fried chicken in the soba borth and sweet soy sauce, I also tried pairing my chicken with the restaurant's spicy koreguus suace. Youngsters and drivers beware: this sauce is spiked with awamori, a rice liquor special to Okinawa that is brewed using a different method than the more-common shochu.

My friend ordered the grilled pork, one of the restaurant's recommended menu items, and happily shared a bite with me. The thinly sliced pork was bursting with flavor and melted in my mouth.

Make sure to save some room for des-

### HANAKINAH OKINAWA SOBA

Location: 1039 Kiyuna, Futenma Deigo Dori, Ginowan-Shi, Okinawa, 901-2222

Directions: From the Camp Foster Kitamae Commissary Gate, turn left onto Highway 58. Make a left at the third light onto Route 81. Hanakinah Okinawa Soba is located on the left side of the road across the street from Shalimar House of 66 Cents. Free parking is available in the lot immediately adjacent to the restaurant.

Hours: Open daily from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., except on Wednesdays where they close at 3 p.m.

Prices: Entrees start at 580 yen (about \$5.20) for regular Okinawa soba), to 950 yen for larger set meals. Dress: Casual attire.

Information: hanakinah.com
— Carlos M. Vazquez II



PHOTOS BY CARLOS M. VAZQUEZ II/Stars and Stripes

Grilled pork simmers in Owkinawan soba at Hanakinah Okinawa Soba.



Vanilla ice cream topped with Okinawa salt cookies and sugar cane syrup is a beautiful and tasty way to end a meal.

sert, as Hanakinah's vanilla ice cream topped with Okinawa salt cookies and sugar cane syrup will definitely give you something to write home about.

By the end of my meal at Hanakinah, I was full and ready to put my chopsticks down — but not before being ribbed by my friend for sticking my chopsticks upright into my bowl of leftover rice, which is seen as a faux pas in Japan. My visit also allowed me to learn another tidbit about the etiquette of eating in Japan: Slurping your noodles is acceptable, and even encouraged.

Hanakinah Okinawa Soba provides the perfect atmosphere for a solo lunch or dinner to sample one of the island's most famous dishes. It was a great choice for my first Japanese dining experience, and the perfect way to get acquainted with my new home.

vazquez.carlos@stripes.com Twitter: @StripesCarlos



At Hanakinah Okinawa Soba, customers can choose to sit at tables, at the bar or inside the traditional tatami seating area.



Hanakinah Okinawa Soba's fried chicken comes with a sweet soy sauce for dipping. For extra kick, try it with koregusu spicy sauce.



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### veekend: lifestyle

By Tony Bizjak/The Sacramento Bee

hopping for a new home? It's not all about square footage, countertops and closet size. Homes are changing. You've got homework to uo. Decisions to make your pocketbook for years. Others will improve your quality of life the day you move in. And one ... well, it'll just make your pooch less smelly. Homes are changing. You've got homework to do. Decisions to make. Some will affect

Here's a quick tour of cutting-edge amenities now offered at some Central Valley, Calif., new-home communities:

# 12 cutting-edge items for YOUR NEXT HOUSE

#### California Room

Homes now frequently come with a modern and stylish upgrade called the California Room. It's an indoor-outdoor space with a ceiling and just one or two walls. It can be used as a second dining room, outdoor kitchen or even a living room with couches and flat screen TV. It may have a ceiling fan, fireplace and tile or polished concrete floor. Depending on the level of extravagance, a California Room could add \$7,000 to \$20,000 to the home price.

#### The disappearing wall

Some homes that don't have California Rooms instead come with a disappearing back wall made of accordion-style bifold doors that fold aside, opening your Great Room to the backyard. "It has huge style points," recent Folsom home-buyer Ian Cornell said. "It looks great and when you are relaxing, I anticipate that feeling of open space and connecting to outdoors."

#### Doggy showers

Introducing the indoor doggy shower, with tiled walls and hot and cold faucets, often located in the laundry room. "It's about three feet wide, two feet above the ground. A special faucet to wash at your waist. It's like a half tub," said Matt Gustus of Anthem United. Other builders are adding doggy drawers in the kitchen of new homes: Slide open the bottom cabinet drawer, and it holds your pet's eating dish and water bowl. Slide it back in and it's out of sight. No tripping or accidentally kicking the water bowl.

Going solar is like getting braces. The row of panels on the roof isn't pretty, but it could pay off with a smile in the long run. The California Energy Commission will require most new homes to have solar starting in 2020. But some home builders are including solar now as standard equipment. The Energy Commission estimates solar could add \$10,000 to the cost of a new home, but the panels could cut average monthly utility bills

#### A Tesla in the garage

If you buy a home with a solar rooftop, should you order a solar-energy storage

battery for your garage too? Technology expert Bob Raymer of the state Build-ing Industry Association says it might be a smart move as utility companies increase rates during new "time of day" electricity pricing. The Sacramento Municipal Utility District, for instance, soon will begin charging more for energy cus-tomers between 5 and 8 p.m. PG&E will follow. A solar battery in the garage will allow homeowners to minimize evening utility bills by storing their own daytime solar energy, then tapping into it in the

evening. The batteries aren't cheap, though, costing anywhere from \$4,000 to \$15,000. Tesla is among the makers.

#### Piggy bank attics

Energy efficiency is about more than rooftop solar. The real bang for your buck might involve a new approach to attic insulation. Raymer of the BIA suggests buyers ask their builder if the attic can include energy-saving insulation techniques now that will be required in 2020. It involves adding R19 insulation

in the attic's ceiling rafters, basically along the underside of the roof. That will keep attic temperatures far closer to room temperatures in the house below, which will cool air conditioning ducts that run through the attic, making it easier for them to do their job of delivering cool air through the house.

#### Cooking with gas? Nope

New home energy efficiency is a fastchanging realm. A pioneering company, De Young Builders in Fresno, Calif., is constructing some of the first "zero net energy" homes in the state. For cooks, though, going no-carbon means stovetop cooking without gas. That's going to be a tough sell for some traditionalists. De Young and other builders hope to make it easier by offering electricity-based induction stovetops as an alternative.

#### Next Gen homes

Lennar Homes officials say more buyers are multi-generational families who want to live under one roof, but want some distance from each other. So the company's begun building in-law apartments that are embedded in the main home, with a front door of their own, but with another door to the main house. They call them Next Gen homes. The apartments have kitchenettes, a living room, bathroom, bedroom, washer and dryer and sometimes their own patio.

#### Foiling porch thieves

New homes are techier than ever. Doorbells now double as cameras and loudspeakers. You can see who's at your front door via a smartphone app while sitting in your office miles away. If it's a delivery service, you can, if you choose, code them into the house, so they don't have to leave the box on the porch.

#### Other tech options

Smart thermostats: You can set the temperature via smartphone app before you get home. Or, some thermostats watch and learn your rhythms, and adjust the temperature on their own. Lennar Homes has introduced "Wi-Ficertified" homes that put an end to an annoying modern issue - reception dead zones. Their system even extends to the backyard. An Amazon rep comes to your house when you move in to help you program your system, which includes Amazon's Alexa technology.



SACRAMENTO BEE/TNS

Phil Angelides waves goodbye to his wife as he takes his elevator from the main floor to the lobby of his Sacramento. Calif., home.

#### **Elevators**

Baby boomers, some now in their early 70s, want homes they can stay in as physical limitations set in. Home builders call it "aging in place." Builder Mike Paris of BlackPine Communities estimates the elevator adds \$25,000 to \$35,000 to the price of the house, depending on how many "stops" it has. But you don't have to buy the elevator yet. The spaces on each floor also serve as closets, pantries and storage rooms. "This gives the buyer the peace of mind that they can age in place without incurring the cost when they may not need the elevator at that time." Paris said.

#### WEEKEND: LIFESTYLE

# BEERUP

# New book offers life hacks for lovers of brew

By Leanne Italie Associated Press

eer snobs, turn away. Ben Robinson has some hacks involving your favorite, foamy beverage.
The editor-in-chief of The Observer has written a handy every guy's illustrated guide

of 100 tips, tricks and projects involving beer.

Heading to Munich for Oktoberfest, or
perhaps just out to the hallpark? He has the

perhaps just out to the ballpark? He has the best ways to partake. Oops, forgot that bottle opener. Robinson's



got you covered.
Want to stash some
for later? You can do
that under the right
conditions.

At 37, the Long Islander has been partaking since his college days, but why write an actual book about the stuff? It

has remained a passion, he told The Associated Press in a recent interview.

"I went to college in Wisconsin, which is a place that is very devoted to beer in many ways," he said. "In college is really when I had my first very good beer. There was a brew pub called the Angelic that we would go to. Back then, if you went to a bar with your parents (pre-21) and your parents said it was OK, they would serve you beer."

Some highlights from his "Beer Hacks," otherwise known as how to make yourself a better beer drinker:

#### Make them cold quick

Warm beer. If it's not your thing, it's your nightmare. When you're really, really thirsty and you come home to a beerless fridge, Robinson has some ideas.

Wet a rag, paper towels or a dish towel, ring out the excess and wrap up your brew for a trip into the freezer. On top of an ice tray or in actual ice is even better. A standard 12-ounce can or bottle should take 10 minutes or less to get to an enjoyable temperature.

That's the path of least resistance. You can grab a receptacle, ice and cups and cups of salt for a cold spin. The ETA is about three minutes of spinning. If you're in a big hurry, like 20 to 30 seconds worth, always have a carbon dioxide fire extinguisher handy. Just put the warm beer in a bucket and fire wawy in quick blasts of one to two seconds. Quickly rinse.

But remember these words: carbon dioxide fire extinguisher. Not a monoammonium phosphate version.

#### When you don't have an opener

Find a sturdy disposable lighter and use the end that doesn't make fire as a lever. Do som magic by folding a standard piece of computer paper in half, then again and again until it's thick. Six or seven folds should make it stiff enough to do what you did with the lighter.

There's always the open one beer with another beer trick, using the cap. Robinson begs off when it comes to the teeth method.

#### Storage doesn't have to be fancy

It's easy to overspend on high-end fridges. Most of the priciest are for wine, anyway. Robinson says resist. Go on Craigslist for a stand-up freezer and purchase a digital temperature control outlet thermostat for \$30 or so. It plugs into any outlet and will regulate the temperature of your new freezer to turn it into a perfect beer fridge instead. Set it to about 45 degrees.

Beer cans and bottles should be stored upright to last as long as possible. The enemies of beer are light, heat and oxygen. Only brown glass and opaque containers such as cans can stop beer from "skunking," meaning when light breaks it down and changes the flavor.

Fluctuations in temperature will skunk beer as well. Consistency is key. When you open it, drink it! Remember that whatever storage place you choose should be kept dark 99 percent of the time. Use your basement, dark garage or the inside of a closet.

Also remember, according to Robinson, that not all styles of beer are cellar-worthy. The exceptionally hoppy are intended to be consumed as fresh as possible. Most beers with ABV (alcohol by volume) below 7.5 percent won't last very nicely long term, he said.

#### Around the house

Beer isn't just for getting things dirty. For gold and gold-plated jewelry, drop some into a glass of beer and soak for a bit before polishing. Robinson said "good" beer actually cleans jewelry worse than the very cheap, so bonus.

It's the slight acidity, he said, which also works on greasy, grimy pots. Copper pots especially.

In the garden, know that slugs love beer. Bury a plastic cup or a few around plants that slugs have taken to, with the lips of the cups slightly above ground. Fill three-quarters of the way up with light beer. No, you won't get every single slug to slime on over, drink and fall in, plus it's ethically your choice to decide on their beer deaths.

A hack for the weary: Pick up a bag of hops at a local brewing supply shop or order online. You'll need "leaf" hops, not pellets. Rub liberally on your pillowcases for some help falling asleep.

#### How to order beer

At a professional sporting event, Robinson urges purchase of the biggest beer they sell. Your cost per ounce generally declines as the size of the cup goes up.

At beer fests, take advantage of those long lines to pace yourself, plus the beer's probably better than those to be had in the shorter lines. Also, realize that Oktoberfest in Munich actually began in September.

### WEEKEND: MUSIC



T.I. wants to highlight rap subgenre with new pop-up museum, album

> By Jonathan Landrum Jr. Associated Press

apper T.I. took a stroll through one of the toughest neighborhoods in Atlanta as children on school buses screamed his name, several motorists honked their horns and men asked for a selfie. Bankhead, an impoverished area known in the city for its high

criminal activity, is viewed as a "trap" area - where drugs are regularly distributed and used. Most would be fearful of venturing into the potentially dangerous environment, yet T.I. walks the streets where he grew up with no worries and no security, while sporting a glistening gold watch and pinky ring.

That's because T.I. is highly respected in Bankhead, a neighbor-

hood he helped popularize through his songs viewed as trap music, a subgenre mostly detailing the lifestyle of selling drugs, highlighted by gritty lyrics and heavy beats.

"He is respected because he respects us," said Rosie Brittain, a Bankhead resident who helped raise T.I. "He represents us. He always comes back home. Nothing but love for him."

The three-time Grammy winner is paying homage to trap music culture with the Trap Music Museum, even dedicating areas of the exhibit to rappers like Gucci Mane, Jeezy, Rick Ross, Future and himself. It opened Sept. 30 in Atlanta.

The pop-up museum offers an "Escape the Trap" experience

much like the popular Escape the Room adventure game
 where visitors have to use clues to find their way out of a house littered with illegal drugs before authorities arrive.

While sitting on his grandfather's front porch, T.I. spoke with The Associated Press about the museum and his 10th studio album, "Dime Trap," out on Oct. 5.

AP. Why do you feel so safe in Bankhead?
T.I. It's a little old lady right up the street. She only leaves her house to go to church and the grocery store. She got a little .38 Special (handgun). She keeps it under her pillow or in her night stand next to her blood pressure pills. And she will blow your damn head off if you come (messing) with T.I. That doesn't come from anything I've done for myself. It comes from me being a genuine person and caring enough about the community and the people in it to treat them with respect.

ny did you feel the need to curate the Trap Music Museum?

yant to celebrate the culture and not just me. The easy thing
me to do is set up a show and it just be me and perform all the
gs from trap music, which I was tempted to do. The genre has
come so significant that I feit it deserved more than that. It's
ally going to be a place where people can take pictures and kind
interact.

When did you realize trap music was about to take off?
The first time I saw the potential, I hardly noticed it. You know, when you're so close to something you can't see it growing. Like if you're around a puppy dog every day, it's still a puppy to you even though it's getting bigger. That how trap music was to me. Even when it was at its biggest point, I never really noticed until people in the EDM world started to call their music trap. That's when I started taking notice.

# How do you feel when people criticize trap music for its glorification of drugs

and gunplay?

It did that, but so did mafia movies. So did "Scarface." ... If I am being reflective and honestly interpreting the effects my experiences had on me, the people who weren't ences had off me, the people who weren it there won't be able to decipher that reflec-tion from glorification. I'm going to speak about it the same way Al Bundy speaks about scoring three touchdowns in one game at Polk High. That's how he spent his genie at rolk flight. Hat si own lee Spein the teenage years. Those were his glory mo-ments. I didn't play football. I sold dope. .. I'm proud I survived those things. I'm not proud of all of the things I necessarily did, but proud of all the lessons that I learned

Will your "Dime Trap" album harken back to your drug-selling days?
Slightly The first record, "Trap Muzik," it was shout the experiences I endured and the lifestyle before I made it in the music industry. With "Dime Trap," this is the evolution of trap music and what I learned and some of the epiphanies along the way. I'll talk about the things that really matter to me now.

You recently signed with Epic Records what are the details of the partnership? Equity. We have the majority share. I own my masters. I have creative control. It's a good partnership. It's extremely rare for a major (label) to extend themselves to an

T.I., photographed in his Trap Music Museum in Atlanta. Trap is a subgenre of hip-hop with the term trap referring to places where drug deals take place. JOHN AMIS/AP

## WEEKEND: MUSIC



#### Loretta Lynn

Wouldn't It Be Great (Sony Legacy)

Loretta Lynn, now 86, hasn't been touring since she suffered a stroke in 2017, but the Kentucky singersongwriter's creative output remains strong on her new album, "Wouldn't It Be Great."

For years, Lynn has been recording her extensive catalog of songs with producing help from John Carter Cash and her daughter, Patsy Lynn Russell, ensuring that her legacy as one of America's greatest songwriters and singers will continue for the next generation even as she's had to slow down her public appearances. Recorded before her stroke, the album was delayed a year as she focused on her physical health.

The collection of Lynnpenned songs stays true to the country music icon's favored subject matters, from love, heartaches, drunk husbands and angry women, but also family and spirituality.

Half new songs and half previously recorded, her high Appalachian vocals are unmistakably clear and refreshing with simple bluegrass and acoustic instrumentation that highlights the lyric and storytelling behind her nearly 60-year career. For a woman who has outlived her husband, as well as some of her children, her loneliness and pain is heartbreaking on a song like "I'm Dying for Someone to Live For."

"Ruby's Stool" sounds like a companion to her classic "Fist City," as Lymn's feisty side comes out in a barroom dispute with another woman. Wouldn't It Be Great" is a sorrowful plea to her late husband Doolittle to give up drinking for the sake of their relationship and contains little gems of simple and personal writing, such as "love went to waste when my sexy lace couldn't turn your face."

On "Ain't No Time to Go," Lynn tenderly sings with just a soft banjo plucking in the background to "stay with me a little bit longer." It feels like a promise to her fans that she's got much more to say if they keep listening.

 Kristin M. Hall Associated Press

# Lil Wayne's 'Tha Carter V' is finally out: Here's what you need to know

By Sonia Rao and Elahe Izadi The Washington Post

Anticipation for the fifth installment of Lil Wayne's "Carter" album series has lasted longer than a lot of people's rap careers. But on Sept. 27 at midnight, the New Orleans rapper finally put "Tha Carter V" into the world.

The 23-track album, the sequel to 2011's "Tha Carter IV," has been held up for years, reportedly over legal issues. In the meantime, Wayne did put out some new music in 2015: the mixtape "Sorry 4 The Wait 2" — whose predecessor, 2011's "Sorry 4 The Wait," similarly came out during the constant delays over "Tha Carter IV" — and the Tidal exclusive "Free Weezy Album."

There's a lot to unpack with "Tha Carter V," though, so here's what you need to know.

What's this about legal issues?
"Tha Carter V" had first been scheduled for a December 2014 's release but got held up as Wayne's relationships with his label, Cash Money Records, and his longtime collaborator Birdman deteriorated. Birdman and Wayne had long been close — the former helped discover the rapper — but in 2014, Wayne publicly called out Birdman and Cash Money Records over the delay in releasing "Tha Carter V".

Wayne sued Cash Money Records and Birdman, its co-founder, for \$51 million over the delays, among other things, according to a lawsuit obtained by TM2 In January 2015. The next month, Wayne told Rolling Stone that "Tha Carter V" was "super done. Cake baked, icing on top, name on top, candles lit. I would have released it yesterday if I could. But it's a dead subject right now. It's a jewel in the safe. It's that stash-house money." Reports emerged in May that the suit had been settled.

"Per our settlement agreement, the matter has been amicably resolved to the satisfaction of all parties," Wayne's lawyer, Ron Sweeney, said in a statement to Billboard that June. "In terms of the particulars, we're prohibited legally from saying anything further. I can say that my client is happy. He is his own man, a man that owns his assets, his music and himself. At some point, Wayne will let his fans know what's going to happen next."



I see?

Yup. XXXTentacion died in June after being shot at a motorcycle dealership in South Florida. Before his death, the 20-year-old rapper lived a violent life: At 6, he tried to stab a man who was "messing" with his mother; while locked up, he beat up a gay inmate; and he allegedly abused his girlfriend for humming someone else's rap verse.

Is that XXXTentacion's name

But as the rapper awaited trial in March—having been charged with false imprisonment, domestic battery and aggravated battery of a pregnant woman—his album ""debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200. His work continues, as he is featured on "Don't Cry," the second track of "Tha Carter V," which deals with death XXXTentacion also is featured on Kanye West's new album, "Varethi".

And another Carter?

Two! Reginae Carter, Wayne's 19year-old daughter, sings the chorus of "Famous." Wayne's mother, Jacida Carter, opens the "Tha Carter

V" with the teary spoken-word track "I Love You Dwayne" and appears throughout the album — and on its cover.

"Lil Wayne, mama proud of you," she says. "You done came so far. I can't wait for your album to come out. A I tot of people ask me when it's coming out. They can't wait for your album to come out. I'm just proud of you."

But where's Drake?

Not here, apparently — at least not at length. While some have been quick to point out that the guy who raps, "Weezy, where you been? The

people miss you," on the track "Hittas" sure sounds a lot like Drake, the Toronto rapper doesn't appear in the album credits and he certainly doesn't have a verse on any song.

Drake's career has long been intertwined with Wayne's. Drake signed to Wayne's label in 2009, the same year MTV asked if the protege would be "the next big thing." (We now know the answer was yes, absolutely.) Because the two have collaborated for years and even toured together, fans were surprised to see that Drake is nowhere to be found on "Tha Carter V."

What about the other guests we hear?

You know who is on the album?

Barack Obama! Wayne closes
"Dedicate" by sampling an Obama speech: "They might think they've got a pretty good jump shot, or a pretty good flow," the former president says. "But our kids can't all aspire to be LeBron or Lil

Others on this album include: Travis Scott, Nicki Minaj, Kendrick Lamar, Sosamann, Snoop Dogg, Ashanti, Mack Maine and Nivea.

Wait, is this the album Martin Shkreli somehow got ahold of? Uh, yeah. We know very well by this point that the universe works in mysterious ways, and one such

way is the disgraced pharmaceutical CEO claiming in December 2016 that he had legally purchased the unreleased "Tha Carter V." Shkreli reportedly got ahold of a CD after Wayne left it in a car that he sold. Mysterious, we say.

Because this is Martin Shkreli we speak of, the drama does not end there. He leaked part of the album on Periscope, after which, according to TMZ, Wayne's team sent him a cease-and-desist letter. Fortunately for Weezy fans, earlier this year, a federal district court ordered a convicted Shkreli to forfeit the album, along with the sole copy of Wu-Tang Clan's "Once Upon a Time in Shaolin," to the federal government as a way to pay off part of the \$7.36 million he

Could this be Wayne's last solo album?
Sadly, yes. After Wayne first an-

nounced "Tha Carter V" in 2012, according to Billboard, he also said he would retire after its release in December 2014. Things obviously didn't go as planned, so who knows whether he will stick to his word? Maybe Weezy leans more Brett Favre than Daniel Dav-Lewis.

## WEEKEND: BOOKS

## 'Waiting for Eden' a study of human suffering

By BRIAN TURNER Special to The Washington Post

lliot Ackerman's latest novel, Waiting for Eden," is a classic triangle story of love and friendship, a ghost story, a captivity narrative and a study of human endurance and suffering. As we learn early on, the narrator is a ghost who speaks to us from beyond the grave, describing his best friend, Eden Malcolm, who was so horrifically injured while they both served as Marines in the Hamrin Valley, Iraq, that he can only communicate using a form of tap code with his jaw. Eden has become "the most wounded man from both the wars. As advanced as medicine had become, that likely made him the most wounded man in the history of war, and they'd just kept him alive from one side of the world to the other." It's a story that's been told before — a melding of Dal-ton Trumbo's classic "Johnny Got His Gun" and Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot." And vet, even if it sounds like a cover tune from another time, the relevance of Ackerman's "Waiting for Eden" remains.

Those who have read his previous books

("Green on Blue" and "Dark at the Crossing") will likely find Ackerman's inevitable turn to the war on the home front intriguing. Those new to his work will discover a writer whose novella-sized book has a beguiling simplicity with sentences that move

AITING

for EDEN

at an unhurried pace, all of it easily read in one sitting.

The ensemble of characters is small, a trio for the most part, that includes Eden, his wife, Mary, and the narrator, Eden's best friend and fellow Marine. Each is flawed and imprisoned in their own way. Ackerman dips in and out of time with a braided

series of vignettes that reveal the inner turmoil within each character while also building toward the book's finale. Suffering is one of the novel's primary themes almost to the point of being its own character. Early on, a nurse attending to Eden during transport on a C-17 "recalled something she'd read or heard once, in a place she couldn't quite remember, about how the suffering of the world is in the suffering of the individual and that in the individual is all the world." In San Antonio during Christmas, as another nurse touches Eden, she realizes that "(bleneath her finger was survival, it was what a body could and would be when battered just to the edge. It was man suffering into the anlage of whatever came next, the amphibian crawling onto land, the first primate standing upright. It was that grotesque and purest form of adaptation: life."

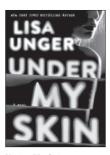
Mary and the narrator both struggle with the things they've done — and they both visit Eden's bedside in a kind of eternal vigil. While Mary's reasons for continuing her watch are never fully convincing, the architecture of this triangle of primary characters works overall. Ackerman occasionally allows bits of earlier drafts to sneak into the finished product, leaving us with a line like this one: "[The nurse] sat on the edge of Eden's bed while his uneven eyes read her face, as if looking for a hidden message, scrawled in lemon juice, one that told life to be always

the right choice." And yet, that line follows a terrific passage:

"He needed rest, but the body has a way of killing itself when it doesn't want to go on, and she stood over him having very unscientific thoughts about how maybe this was the right way for it to be. Maybe the body knew better than the medicine."

Suffering Endurance Confinement Loyalty Betrayal. Friendship, Love. Ackerman threads these themes throughout the novel, along with dreamscapes, hallucinations and the all-too-real visions of life in a hospital burn unit, a life caught between worlds.

As I read the last paragraph and set the novel down, I thought about the patients in VA hospitals across the country. "Waiting for Eden" suggests that the dead care more for the living than most of the living do for one another. It is a story that might serve as a call for compassion, or at least awareness, for those wounded in our wars as well as their loved ones and caregivers. It's also a reminder that battlefields extend beyond the historical maps assigned to them in history books or news reports.



#### **Under My Skin**

Lisa Unge

Poppy's husband, Jack, was may be a good of the was jogging through a city park in New York. When she received the news, the pain was so intense, she blacked out and ended up having no memory of several days. In fact, her next memory has her disoriented and wearing clothes she doesn't recomize.

She's tried to move on, and has even tried dating again, but no one comes close to Jack. It also doesn't help that the murder was never solved.

Poppy begins to see a therapist, but the nightmares grow and she starts seeing a strange man wearing a gray hoodie who seems to be stalking her. Is this the killer coming back for her, or is she imagining him? Since she sometimes sees her dead hus band, she's not sure if the stalker

or anything else — is real.
Can Poppy climb out of her
grief to find the truth! If she can,
she will quickly discover that
sometimes the facts are worse
than manufactured reality.

For a story that is steeped in grief and darkness, Unger's steady hand keeps hope shining throughout this captivating thriller.

- Jeff Ayers/AP



#### The Greatest Love Story Ever Told

Megan Mullally and Nick Offerman

In their new book, actors and humorists Megan Mullally and Nick Offerman leave nothing off the table. "The Greatest Love Story Ever Told" describes their passionate marriage, acknowledges their non-traditional views of life and celebrates their ability to make it all work in Hollywood.

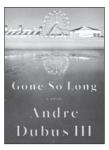
Raised in very different environments, Megan and Nick discuss their relationships with their families when they were growing up. Megan was an only child who navigated a dysfunctional home life. Nick grew up in the Midwest with loving parents and siblings. It makes sense that Megan put up her guard for a long time before letting Nick into her world. It also makes sense that he adores her with every fiber of his being.

The book is packed with hilari-

The book is packed with hilar ous, honest and wacky details about their sex life, religious beliefs and rise to stardom.

Most of the chapters have been transcribed from a voice recorder and it takes concentration to remember who is speaking from the back-and-forth dialogue. But the individual essays are hilariously candid.

- Lincee Ray/AP



## **Gone So Long**

Andre Dubus III

The story begins in the voice of Susan, a daughter staking out the house of her father's parole officer, then abruptly switches to third person, as fragments of memories return to Susan and we learn that the novel will hinge on a decades-old untilikable crime

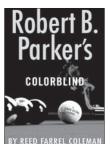
Dubus trickles out details as he moves in and out of Susan's head and the head of her father, Daniel. At its heart, "Gone So Long" is a meditation on regret and anger — how people process and cope with it throughout their lives and how destructive it can be to keep it bottled up.

Susan's father served almost 15 years in prison and has lived a life of redemption apart from his family. It's his decision to find his daughter that sets the presentday plot in motion.

But it takes hundreds of pages for Daniel to travel from Massachusetts to Florida, where Susan works as a writing professor. In that time, readers go deep inside the heads of the various complex characters.

"Gone So Long" isn't a thriller, but it's taut with tension. Dubus manages to keep readers on edge despite telling a tale in which very little happens in the present.

— Rob Merrill/AP



#### Colorblind

Reed Farrel Coleman

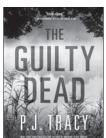
Massachusetts Police Chief Jesse Stone's lifelong drinking problem hit bottom in "The Hangman's Sonnet," as he anguished over the death of his fiancee, who was murdered in "Debt to Pay."

Now, in the well-written, fastpaced "Colorblind," Coleman's fifth Jesse Stone novel (the latest installment in a series originated by the late Robert B. Parker), Stone returns to work after a long-overdue month in rehab.

Any hope that he could ease back into the job is dashed when a young black woman with a white boyfriend is brutally raped and murdered. At first, Jesse thinks the case resembles another from years ago, but when a cross is burned on the lawn of another interacial couple, Jesse recognizes that a new kind of trouble has come to the town of Paradise.

"Colorblind" represents a further advance in Coleman's effort to make this series his own. He has been gradually deepening the character of the protagonist, making him more human and memorable. He has also changed the fictional seaside town of Paradise, diversifying its ethnic and racial makeup with a wave of outsiders moving in from nearby Boston.

— Bruce DeSilva/AP



## The Guilty Dead

P.J. Tracy

In "The Guilty Dead," a young man battles addiction and when he finally decides he's going to clean himself up after one last binge, he meets his maker courtesy of the dealer who supplied the extra-deadly drugs. Though it was murder, the official determination by authorities is an accidental overdose. One year later, the young man's father, prominent businessman Gregory Norwood, still grieves, and he's soon found dead with an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Minneapolis detective Leo Magozzi knows in his gut that Gregory was murdered, and begins to question his son's death.

Magozzi soon learns from his allies at the company Monkeewrench Software that a possible terrorist attack is immines somewhere in downtown Minneapolis. How does the death of Norwood and his son tie into this bold plot, and if they are related, can it be stopped in time?

P.J. Tracy has been the pseudonym for the mother-daughter writing team of P.J. and Traci Lambrecht for the previous novels in the Monkeewrench series. P.J. died in 2016, and Traci has continued the tradition of wellcrafted and tense stories.

— Jeff Ayers/AP

## WEEKEND: TELEVISION & DVD

## NEW ON DVD

"Sicario: Day of the Soldado": Josh Brolin's character of Matt Graver says the best moneymaking operation by the Mexican cartels years ago was cocaine. Then he adds that today it is people. That massive shift in financial reasoning serves as the basis for the sequel to the 2015 feature film "Sicario." The first film focused on the war against the drug business through the eyes of an FBI agent (Emily Blunt) desperately trying to hang on to her ideals in a world where truth and justice are just words. "Sicario: Day of the Soldado" has a few small problems but overall, it's a tension-filled ride through the border wars given strength through standout performances by Brolin, Benicio Del Toro and Isabela Moner



FOX

Manish Dayal and Matt Czuchry star in "The Resident." The first season of the TV series is available on DVD.

"The Resident: Season 1: There's plenty to shout about in the first season of the Fox medical drama. The caring Dr. Conrad (Matt Czuchry) tries to navigate his way through life in a medical facility that at times is sicker than the patients they treat. The facility is run by an egotistical doctor (Bruce Greenwood) who won't admit his deteriorating medical condition should keep him out of the operating room. Another doctor (Melina Kanakaredes) shows she will go to any lengths to make sure her clinical trials look as good as possible. The 14-episode season is packed with stories about both patients and the staff. It moves at an extremely rapid pace for a TV drama.

Also available on DVD:
"La Familia": Father and son become

closer after they go into hiding.

"The Originals: Season 5": The final

"The Originals: Season 5": The final season of the spinoff series from "The Vampire Diaries."

"Soul Food: The Complete Series"
"Mister Rogers: It's You I Like": The
celebrity-filled special celebrates "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood."

"No Postage Necessary": A thief who steals mail has his life changed by one pink envelope. "Housewife": Woman haunted by a

"Housewife": Woman haunted by a childhood trauma for 20 years turns to a charismatic cult leader for help.

"The Catcher Was a Spy": True story of how a professional baseball player (Paul Rudd) became a World War II spy.

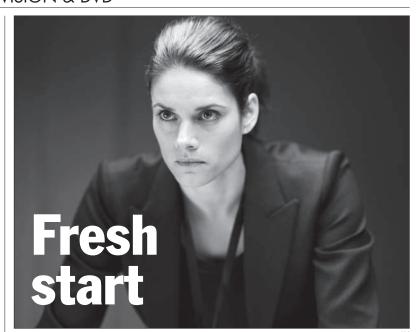
"Sin in the Suburbs": Director and screenwriter Joseph W. Sarno explores the dark side of the American dream in

"Ghosted: The Complete First Season": Skeptic and a genius true believer in the paranormal work for a secret government agency.

"Barry: the Complete First Season": Bill Hader plays a Midwestern hit man who travels to Los Angeles to kill someone but ends up becoming part of the local arts scene.

"Girls vs. Gangsters": After an out-ofcontrol bachelorette party, five friends wake up naked on a beach and none of them have any clue what happened the

Rick Bentley/Tribune News Service



"FBI," from Emmy Award winner Dick Wolf and the team behind the Law & Order franchise, is a drama about the inner workings of the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The show, which stars Missy Peregrym as Special Agent Maggie Bell, airs Wednesdays on AFN-Prime.

## 'FBI' star Missy Peregrym tackles new role, new city

By RICK BENTLEY Tribune News Service

issy Peregrym didn't need any basic training before starting work on the new CBS series "FBI," where she plays Maggie Bell, a special agent who commits deeply to the people she works with as well as those she protects. The Canadian's most recent role was starring as a rookie police officer for six seasons in "Rookie Blue."

"I kind of felt like I came into the series ready to go, but it would have been nice to be able to talk to a few more FBI agents and get a better idea of what they do. But, at the end of the day, when you are doing a show where there is a reality to the situation, it is up to the writers to put in what they want for the character and how much they will take from real life," Peregrym says. "I just had to trust the fact I would be able to adapt.

"The police stuff definitely helped because I feel super comfortable with finearms and doing all of those things. The difference from 'Rookie Blue' is that my character was on the street and she was running and tackling people all the time. That was fun, but I'm 36 now. I don't need to be doing

After her long run as Andy McNally on "Rookie Blue," Peregrym was not interested in doing another procedural. She was worried too much of McNally would pop up in a similar series, plus she was nervous about moving to New York. She turned down the role in "FBI" twice, but executive produc-

er Dick Wolf wanted to cast Peregrym since she made a guest appearance on his "Law & Order: SVU."

Wolf told Peregrym no one tells him no. The executive producer's record remains perfect, as Peregrym agreed to be in the series. Saying yes didn't mean Peregrym felt comfortable with the work and was convinced on several occasions she was going to be fired. The way she handled the stress was to remember that shows like "FBI" aren't built around just one actor but the combined efforts of cast and crew to make the best product possible.

The only hurdle left was getting accustomed to living in New York. She was a nervous wreck while filming the pilot and only got through it by meditation and some crying.

"The city doesn't sleep. They're throwing crap out at 3 in the morning by the hotel. I'm like, 'Go to bed. I need to go to bed. I don't understand this place. But what I do love about New York City, again, is the people,' Peregrym says. 'I actually find them very fascinating. You can look at anybody and have no idea what they do. It's very interesting to me. I actually find them very kind.

"I like the fact that they'll swear at us if we're in their way. I love it. It's grounded there. And, surprisingly, being there for three weeks, I'm really settled and excited to be there, which is a relief. I am more comfortable in New York than I ever was in I. A."

Peregrym has worked on numerous projects before her latest job. Along with a role in the TV series "Dark Angel, "she's worked on "Van Helsing," "Reaper," "Heroes," "Ten Days in the Valley," "The Night Shift" and "Life as We Know it." Her feature film credits include "Back Country." She was more interested in being an Olympian when she was younger, but when that didn't happen, she got close by starring in the gymnastics film "Stick It."

Working on "FBI" has been a very different experience for Peregrym because the show is filmed on the streets of New York. On one day of filming, she saw an extra dressed in a police uniform who was crying. When Peregrym asked the woman what was wrong, she said the scene being shot reminded her of the Sept. 11 attacks.

"It was just a really jarring moment for me when life really meets the entertaining part of what we're doing. I feel like that's why I'm also very excited to do this show. We have a responsibility to be very careful with how we're portraying these things because all of the country knows about that," Peregrym says. "We're picking topics that anybody can turn on the TV and see some of the scariest things happen. Which, by the way, I didn't watch the news for two years before doing this show, because I get scared of that stuff.

"I'm really, really excited to tell the other side of that story, which is these things are happening and this is a possibility, but here's also who's on the ground and making a difference, who's also making changes so that I can feel safe in reality."

For the estimated 15 million Americans

## WEEKEND: HEALTH & FITNESS

# who have severe food allergies, the possibility of a hospital visit, or even death, are the norm. Just as normal is the need to convince others that certain foods could have lethal consequences for them. (OVER) REACTIONS?



By Lavanya Ramanathan The Washington Post

ood allergies are a mystery that science is only just beginning to unravel. Eight food categories, including fish, shellfish, eggs, milk and peanuts, are now widely recognized as major allergens. But doctors also acknowledge milder reactions, like itchy mouths and swollen lips, to a host of other seemingly innocuous foods: Kiwi fruit. Hazelnuts. Carrots. Bananas. Watermelon. Some people have reported reactions to ingredients that have never been on any widely recognized allergen lists, including meat or mustard seed.

But which food reactions are allergies, and which are just ... overreactions? We've all sat down to dinner with someone who will tick off a list of supposed allergies when prompted by a server: Chicken. Strawberries. Lemon. Chocolate. Or, more recently, you've probably dined with someone who won't touch gluten because they "feel better" when they don't.

Food allergies are wildly unpredictable. Some sufferers will eat a handful of almonds or drink a glass of milk and get a few hives; others will suffer a fatal attack after eating something stirred with a spoon that had also come into contact

with, say, a seafood soup. Reactions can worsen markedly if the sufferer drinks alcohol, exercises or is premenstrual when exposed. Same for those who are stressed or anxious.

Some food allergies just go away over time. Some, particularly peanut allergies, might never fade.

For a long time, especially in the early part of his career in the 1980s, Hugh Sampson counted himself among the food allergy skeptics. A pediatric allergist and immunologist at New York's Jaffe Food Allergy Institute, he is one of the leading researchers in the field. "All to of people, including myself, didn't believe in food allergies," he says. There's a reason: They weren't nearly as prevalent in the past. "Everyone would do skin tests and tell people, 'You're allergic to this food.' But it was quite difficult to find people who had bona fide reactions."

Back then, "we really didn't see much in the way of peanut allergy," Sampson says. "I know because I tested everyone for it. It wasn't there."

Then, sometime in the late 1980s and

early 1990s, Sampson and others in the medical field say, parents began flooding their offices. Nuts, grains, milk, eggs and a host of other foods were triggering the "bona fide reactions" that doctors hadn't witnessed before. The children were experiencing anaphylaxis — their bodies covered in hives, their throats closing, their blood pressure sinking, their blood is a check.

Food allergy afflicts just 4 percent of Americans, according to findings published last year in the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. The vast majority of sufferers are under the age of 25, and many are very young: An estimated two children in every U.S. classroom now suffer from food allergies. It's as if severe food allergy appeared from the ether, and the young seem to be paying the highest price, which explains the swift and extreme official reaction.

In 2006, the Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act required food packaging to identify ingredients more clearly; manufacturers were prodded to call casein, for example, what it lists in plain language whether it contains allergens. In July, Southwest Airlines eliminated the packets of peanuts it had served aboard its flights for nearly 50 years. (Several other airlines, including JetBlue and United, had already eliminated peanuts, one of the most pervasive and dangerous food allergens.) Some schools have banned peanuts entirely. Many affected families say there's still too little awareness. This summer, a 15-vear-old Floridian named Alexi Stafford

really is - roughly, milk. Every granola

bar, bag of chips and frozen dinner now

Many affected natimities say there's shin too little awareness. This summer, a 15-year-old Floridian named Alexi Stafford died after unknowingly eating a cookie at a friend's house that had bits of peanut butter cups scattered among the chocolate chips. Her mother shared her despair on Facebook, blaming confusing packaging and recalling that the family's entire existence had been "dedicated to keeping our child safe from one ingredient, peanuts."

Terrified of exposing their children to allergens, some parents go to extremes. Scott Sicherer, director of the Jaffe Institute, recalls one family that chose to eat every meal in a separate room from their son. "It changes the day-to-day living circumstances," Sicherer says. "People are so worried about reactions, they're limiting their social activities. And that, I think, is news to the outside world that's not living with it."

In the U.S., eight major food allergens — milk, egg, peanut, tree nuts, wheat, soy, fish and crustacean shellfish — are responsible for most of the serious food allergy reactions.

GREG Powers/The Washington Post

## Weekend: Family

## **Learning to share**

## How to prepare child No. 1 for the birth of a sibling

By CLARA WIGGINS
Special to The Washington Post

inding out I was pregnant with my second baby would have been as exciting as with the first, but for one thing overshadowing the joy: How would I tell my daughter that she wasn't going to be the only child in our life from now on?

The guilt I felt about sharing my love for her ate away at me throughout my pregnancy until finally, when daughter No. 2 came along, I realized that actually it was fine and there is always enough love to go round. But I don't think I am alone in worrying how a first child is going to feel about getting a baby brother or sister. I teach childbirth classes, and my students who are expecting a second child often ask how they can soften the blow.

"Different families will take different approaches, and that's fine," says Rebecca Schiller, author of "Your No Guilt Pregnancy Plan," douls and chief executive of childbirth charity Birthrights. "You know your child best. However you prepare them, the reality is bound to be difficult at times as they learn to share your time, love, lap, toys and bedrooms — but it's okay if your child finds it hard to adjust, and you haven't failed them if they do."

Schiller says you should talk to your child about becoming a sibling in an "age-appropriate way" and be honest about the difficult aspects of their new role. She suggests getting them to help you make a scrapbook about their birth and baby years, and asking them to be part of your planning for the months ahead. Here are some suggestions from other parents about what helped prepare their child for a new baby.

#### **Books and TV shows**

Some parents found it helpful to share books about becoming a sibling with their older kids in the weeks leading up to the birth. Some books focus on the physical aspects of the baby growing in their mother's body and how it comes out ("It's Not the Stork!"), while others deal with what life is likely to be like once the baby arrives. We read "Sophie and the New Baby" with our eldest daughter when I was pregnant with her sister. Other options include "There's a House Inside my Munmmy" and "The New Small Person."

Other parents I spoke with said it was helpful that some of their child's favorite television shows have episodes that focus on introducing new baby siblings, including

ducing new baby siblings, including "Blue's Clues," "Sesame Street" and "Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood." Watching one of these shows together could present an opportunity to start a conversation about the impending arrival.

#### Buy them a doll

Consider giving your soon-tobe-sibling a lifelike doll. If nothing else, it will provide them a "baby"



tock photo

Adjusting to a new sibling can be difficult. Making an older child part of the planning can help, as can timing transitions so they happen well before or long arfter the new baby arrives.

of their own to hold instead of trying to pick up the sibling. We didn't give my older daughter a specific new doll, but she did mimic me with one of her existing ones and was soon feeding her, potty-training her and pushing her around in a toy buggy.

## Make them your official photographer

Depending on how old the child is, he or she might enjoy having a camera and being given the task of documenting the arrival of the baby. There are plenty of child-friendly cameras on the market that are sturdy enough not to break if dropped, or you could just let them use the camera on your phone. It will be fun to browse through the results during a late-night feeding session with the new baby.

#### **Come bearing gifts**

Many parents suggest getting a present for the baby to give the older child. We had a toy ready at the hospital when my daughter arrived to meet her younger sister. Also remember that your child might feel left out when friends and relatives come to visit bearing gifts for the new baby - but nothing for the newly minted older sibling. Ask people to bring a small gift for your older child as well or instead. The baby doesn't really care if they get anything, but your already put out older child might resent a pile of presents for their sibling.

## Be aware of confused feelings

It is natural for your firstborn to feel jealous of his or her new sibling. Be prepared for this, and plan ahead to help them cope and still feel special. When they first come to see you, make sure you are not holding the baby. You need to have your arms free to give them a big hug, and the sight of you carrying their new sibling might make them feel like they are being replaced in your affections as well as in your arms.

## Make transitions ahead of time (or well after)

Even if you don't plan to put your new baby straight into the crib, consider moving your older child into a bed (if they are ready) a few weeks before the baby comes home. That will help prevent the child from associating the move with the new baby's arrival, and feeling like they are being pushed out. If you are thinking about toilet training around this time either start a good while before your due date or leave it until later. You don't want to be trying to cajole them into sitting on a potty while you are also looking after a newborn (I speak from bitter experience). Changing two sets of diapers actually isn't as bad as running across a room clutching a nursing baby to your chest hoping to grab the potty before it's too late.

#### Classes for children

If you are really worried about the impact of the impending arrival on your older child, look for a special sibling preparation class that you can take them to.

And remember, no matter how much you prepare your child, they really aren't going to understand what is coming until the baby arrives. Hopefully, your older child will welcome the baby into the family and love if just like you do. But don't worry if they don't — sibling rivalry is natural and one of the ways children learn to navigate relationships later in life.

## THE MEAT AND POTATOES OF LIFE

Lisa Smith Molinari



# Anti-military obstacles challenge recruiters

ack in 2011, my husband, Francis, reported to Naval Station Mayport, Fla., to be the staff intelligence officer (N2) of the US Fourth Fleet. We were excited, because N2 positions at numbered fleets were traditionally "command equivalent" and highly competitive. However, the military was being drawn down between 2010 and 2016, and the rules were no longer certain.

One year into Francis' tour, it was announced that N2 roles were no longer command equivalent, but rather "milestone tours" necessary to qualify for command. Francis was allowed one more shot at command; however, by that time, scores of navy captains were competing for three positions. Francis was not selected.

His last day in the Navy was October 31, 2016, after a tour as deputy commander of the US Naval War College. Eight days later, President Trump was elected and the drawdown abruptly stopped. The National Defense Authorization Act heralded huge troop increases across all branches, and the administration submitted 30-year plans to increase Navy ships to 355, requiring 50,000 more active-duty sailors, the largest increase in more than a generation.

The Årmy, Marine Corps and Åir Force have also been under pressure to retain more troops and increase their ranks. This year, the Army failed to meet its recruiting goal for the first time since 2005, and although the other branches managed to meet recruiting targets, all reported challenges in convincing young men and women to join and difficulty persuading active-duty service nersonnel to stav.

During six years of drawdown, recruiting efforts slowed and military members were forced out. But now, in the midst of new military pay increases; programs for spouses; increased bonuses; better deployment schedules; golden tickets" allowing breaks from service; and easing of recruiting restrictions on age, tattoo placement, drug use, ADD and asthma — why are recruiters having so much trouble convincing people to serve.

I spoke with Lt. Col. Kon Anzalone, Commander of the Army's New England Recruiting Battalion, who told me that people in his area of responsibility are patriotic, but tell Army recruiters, "Not my kid." Educational institutions, coaches, parents and counselors advise young men and women that the only path to success is to go to college, because the civilian job market is booming. "But student loans will hobble them," Anzalone said. "People fail to realize that the U.S. Army is the largest investor in college education — we'll pay tuition for you."

Anti-military sentiment at educational institutions is a problem, Anzalone said. His recruiters are given "bare minimum or restricted access" to students, are prohibited from wearing uniforms and are limited to designated free speech areas. Recently, when female Army athlete-soldiers were sent to an all-female high school track meet to disseminate recruitment materials, parents ran recruiters off, warning them, "Don't talk to my kid."

To combat the college-only message perpetuated by in-

To combat the college-only message perpetuated by institutions and influencers, Army recruiters are responding directly to millennials who ask, "What can you do for me?" and Generation Zers who say, "I want to make a difference." "We tell them, this is not your grandfather's Army. This is not your father's Army. We have stateof-the-art technology, specialized career training and educational opportunities that they never had," Anzalone said.

"A lot of young men and women still want to serve, but they are being told that it's not what's important," he said. The buildup came too late for our family to progress

further in the military, but we feel privileged that Francis was able to serve his country for 28 years. To us, no civilian job will ever provide the honor and camaraderie we found in the Navy.

Lt. Col. Anzalone hopes that young men and women choosing their path will realize that, "In the Army, you're not just an employee. You're a member of a family."

Read more of Lisa Smith Molinari's columns at: themeatandpotatoesoflife.com Email: meatandpotatoesoflife@googlemail.com

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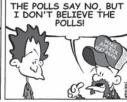
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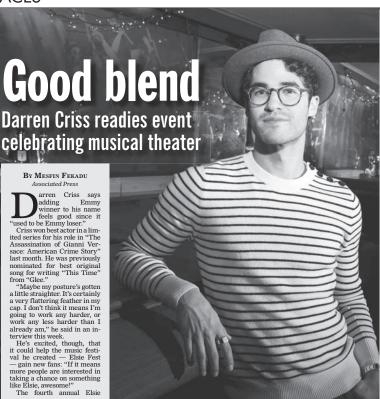
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## **FACES**



Fest, which blends the musical theater and pop music worlds, is Sunday in New York's Central Park.

"I was the only guy that I knew that had as seasoned of a dual citizenship between this sort of Broadway/cabaret/musical theater world, which isn't just about performing; it's about knowing the people and the culture and where that culture has presence in other areas of culture,' said 31-year-old Criss, who has starred in Broadway's "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" and "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," as well as appearing in numerous TV shows and films.

"So between that and working in rock venues and actually being a musician and touring places and knowing how to package a tour with an artist, I started seeing these margins of disconnect between worlds that should be pretty similar. These are all artists that are storytellers that have chosen different kingdoms to speak their language. And I started to realize that there was a disconnect and I wanted to put them together."

Tony winner Sutton Foster — who stars on the hit TV series "Younger" — will headline the festival. Other performers include singer-songwriter Rufus Waimvright, former "Glee" stars Matthew Morrison and Alex Newell, voice actress and singer Jodi Benson, Casey Cott of "Riverdale" fame, three-time Tony nominee Joshua Henry and "The Flash" actor Grant Austin.

"I think three or four years ago it was a pain in the (butt) to try to explain this to people because there was no precedent for it, so not only to festival-goers but to artists and investors there was sort of this uphill climb,"

"If we were starting a huge rock festival or pop festival, you can reference other things and other models that people can latch on to categorize what we're trying to do. We've set our own precedent and we're very proud of that and while it was frustrating in the beginning, the proof of concept just worked."

Emmy winner Darren Criss is the founder of Elsie Fest, a festival blending the musical theater and pop music worlds.

Amy Sussman, Invision/AP

## Denzel Washington looks back fondly on some crucial advice

From wire reports

Denzel Washington joined the Boys & Girls Club of America when he was 5. He's never really left.

The 63-year-old Oscar-winning actor says the lessons he learned from the youth organization became the foundation of his success. One valuable lesson came after a track and field event where Washington found he wasn't as fast as one other child.

"I was real nervous about that, and I was thrown off by it," Washington recalled. A counselor noticed that something was wrong and came over. "I remember him telling me that, 'You know, yes, that other kid is fast, but he doesn't know how to run. He doesn't know how to run the turns or pass the baton.' And he said: 'Your natural ability will only take you so far.'"

That advice paid off when learning his craft as an actor. He started performing as a junior in college and had instant success. But he remembered that his natural ability would only take him so far. "So I decided to continue my studies and go no to work on my master's, and that was directly related to an experience I had as a child in the Boys & Girls Club," Washington said.

Washington was in the nation's capital for the annual Boys & Girls Club National Youth of the Year award ceremony. This year's Southwest Youth of the Year recipient was Malachi Haynes, who accepted the honor before an audience that included members of Congress and Boys & Girls Clubs of America supporters, including Washington, who is the national spokesman.

The organization began in 1860. The clubs try to foster character development, citizenship and living a healthy lifestyle.

## EgyptAir stands by purported interview with Barrymore

EgyptAir is standing by a writer for its in-flight magazine who penned a bizarre article purportedly based on an interview with American actress Drew Barrymore.

The article, riddled with misspellings and grammatical errors, led with a description of Barrymore as "being unstable in her relationships" and quoted her as saying that motherhood was "the most important role in my life."

In a tweet sent Wednesday in response to online criticism, the national carrier thanked author Aida Tekla for "the clarification" in which she claimed review was indeed real and took place in New York. Barrymore has yet to issue an official statement and her representatives could not be reached for comment. Press reports in the U.S. have quoted representatives as denying any such interview took place, with some suggesting the author must have based her article on misinterpretations of a press conference.

The article says Barrymore had failed relationships because her parents divorced. "It is known that Barrymore had almost

17 relationships, engagements and marriages; psychologists believe that her behavior is only natural since she lacked the male role model in her life after her parents' divorce," Tekla wrote.

EgyptAir's in-flight magazine has Arabic and English sections.

#### CBS fires former 'NCIS: New Orleans' showrunner

CBS Television Studios has fired veteran producer Brad Kern.

The studio confirmed that it terminated its relationship with the "NCIS: New Or-leans" showrunner Tuesday, which came after a series of allegations of misconduct in recent years. "We have ended Brad Kern's role as consulting producer on 'NCIS: New Orleans' and his overall deal with the Studio," a spokesperson for CBS Television Studios and in a statement.

The Hollywood Reporter reported Tuesday that Kern was ousted after a third investigation began in June that looked into allegations of harassment, unprofessional conduct and vindictive behavior by Kern. However, the studio declined to comment on whether that was why it ended Kern's deal on Tuesday. A rep for Kern did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

#### Other news

■ "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" is losing a

major member of its cast. Chelsea Peretti announced she's leaving the popular police sitcom after portraying administrator Gina Linetti the past five seasons. Peretti did not provide an explanation for why she is leaving the show.

- Mischa Barton, who starred on Fox's drama "The O.C.," has joined MTV's revival of the reality show "The Hills," MTV announced Wednesday. "The Hills. New Beginnings" will feature original cast members Audrina Patridge, Heidi and Spencer Pratt, Whitney Port and Brody Jenner.
- Move over, Donna Summer, Carole King and Cher There's another diva heading to Broadway — Tina Turner. Producers of "Tina" said Wednesday a new musical based on the life of the legendary artist will land on the Great White Way in the fall of 2019.
- Jimmy Kimmel will see a dream come true when he opens a two-story, 300-seat comedy club next spring in Las Vegas where he will make regular appearances and give up-and-coming comics a chance to hone their talents. The late-night talk show host joined casino giant Caesars Entertainment in announcing plans Wednesday.
- Kate Hudson says her baby girl is here. The actress announced Wednesday on her Instagram account that Rani Rose Hudson Fujikawa was born Tuesday. It's the third child but first girl for Hudson, and her first baby with musician boyfriend Danny Fujikawa.

## STARS STRIPES, OPINION

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## Pentagon is letting down women who serve

By Monica Medina Special to The Washington Post

he U.S. Military Academy's student body is about 20 percent women. But the gender mix was different for the top six students in the Class of 2018: All of them were

That little-noticed but remarkable fact is just one more sign of the positive impact that women are having on the military as their roles and opportunities expand. Determined women in uniform have been busy breaking barriers, including some of the toughest ones. Fifteen women have

graduated from the Army's most physical-ly challenging and elite training, Ranger School, and two women graduated from the Marine Corps' arduous Infantry Officers Course. In another recent first, a woman is in command of a Marine infantry unit. Yet when speaking at the Virginia Military Institute last week. Defense Secretary

Jim Mattis seemed to hedge his support for the Defense Department's full-integration policy for women in combat roles. The "close-quarters fight being what it is," he said, "is it a strength or a weakness to have women in that circumstance?" I know something about the military's

full-integration policy. More than five years ago, I drafted it for my boss, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta. He wanted to end the second-class-citizen treatment of brave women willing to fight and die for their country; all jobs in all units, including combat jobs, would be opened to women.

Now the current defense secretary ap-pears to be undercutting that policy ("This is a policy that I inherited." Mattis said) by

casting doubt on women's ability to fight in combat units. It was more than a little ironic he was speaking at VMI, given that the school's all-male policy was ended by a Supreme Court decision in 1996. Mattis' answer to a question from a cadet revealed a basic misunderstanding: The gender in-tegration policy ensures that anyone in a combat job meets the standards required.

His comments also suggested a paternalistic bias against women in combat roles: "How did the infantry get its name? Infant soldier. Young soldier. Very young soldier. They're cocky, they're rambunctious, they're necessarily macho." That didn't sound like the man who, at his confirmation hearing in January 2017, said he had "no plan to oppose women in any aspect" of the military, and that the "standards are the standards, and when people meet the standards, then that is the end of the discussion on that."

Mattis acknowledged at VMI that "our natural inclination" is to "have this open to all," but he added "we cannot do something that militarily doesn't make sense." More data are needed, he said: "There are a few stalwart young ladies who are charging into this, but they are too few."

The number of women working their way

into combat positions is indeed small, but they continue to increase even as women face obstacles to entering them. Those include a "leaders first" policy, flowing from "guiding principles" issued by then-Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey in 2013 when the fullintegration policy was announced. "Leaders first" means that Army women can serve in combat units only if two female officers have been assigned at the battalion level. The intention was good, but the effect was detrimental to female soldiers advancement.

The entire gender integration plan was designed by the military to carefully and methodically "grow" women into positions rather than speed integration at all levels

- it was expected to take 20 or more years to complete. Juliette Kayyem, a CNN national security analyst and former Depart-ment of Homeland Security official in the Obama administration, noted in an opinion piece for The Boston Globe in August that there are 80 women in the Marine Corps who hold "previously combat-excluded roles. The Army has fared better, with 740 women now in jobs they once were not allowed to hold. It is a slow process.

Someone at the Pentagon should remind Mattis that 2018 is the "Year of the Woman" and that a record number of female veterans are running for Congress. Among them is M.J. Hegar, a Democratic candidate in Texas. As an Air National Guard helicopter pilot, Hegar was shot down in Afghanistan in 2009 and returned enemy fire, defending her crew and patients; she was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor for her heroism

Hegar was also among a group of female veterans who pressed the DOD to lift the combat exclusion rule in 2013 and introduce the full gender integration policy Given Mattis' recent comments, the fight continues. For women willing to die in the defense of their country, this is one battle that needs to end for good.

Monica Medina is an adjunct professor in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She is a board member of Service Women's Action Network, which is suing the U.S. government over limits on women in combat roles.

## Tech firms pushing for privacy laws. Watch out.

By NEEMA SINGH GULIANI Special To The Washington Post

fter years of claiming they could self-regulate, the tech industry is suddenly receptive to the idea of federal privacy legislation. But don't let this post-Cambridge Analytica "mea culpa" fool you into believing these companies have consumers' best interests in mind. Far from it.

This seeming willingness to subject themselves to federal regulation is, in fact. an effort to enlist the Trump administration and Congress in companies' efforts to weaken state-level consumer privacy protections.

It has often been state legislatures not Congress, that have led efforts to protect consumer privacy. California was the first to require that companies notify consumers of a data breach (other states have followed suit), the first to mandate that companies disclose through a conspicuous privacy policy the types of information they collect and share with third parties, and among the first to recognize data privacy rights for children. Illinois set important limits on the commercial collection and storage of biometric information, such as finger-prints and face prints. Idaho, West Virginia, Oklahoma and other states have passed laws to protect student privacy.

The private sector knows this, and many companies are looking to put a stop to it. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce recently urged Congress to "adopt a federal privacy framework that preempts state law." The Internet Association, which represents digital companies such as Amazon, Airbnb, Google, Microsoft, Lyft, Twitter and Uber, has similarly urged pre-emption of state laws. And recent reports suggest that other tech companies, including Facebook, IBM and Microsoft, are working with Trump

administration officials behind the scenes to lobby Congress to do the same.

And some people seem to be falling for it. After all, the Senate Commerce Committee held a hearing on consumer privacy protections last week that included many industry representatives but not one representative of consumer interests.

A federal law wiping out - otherwise known as pre-empting - state protections would be a bad deal for consumers. It would likely put existing consumer protections, many of which are state-led, on the chopping block and leave states bound by a federal law that could prevent additional consumer privacy protections from ever seeing the light of day. State regulators could lose the authority to sue or fine companies that violate their laws. And consumers may even be barred from taking companies to court.

Industry wrongly argues that federal pre-emption is needed to prevent a "patchwork" of regulation — that is, a situation where states augment federal standards with their own laws. If federal standards are strong and adapt to new threats, states may see no need to pass their own laws to supplement these standards. But preserving their ability to act if this is not the case can be good for the public. It's because of a natchwork that Equifax ultimately notified all consumers of its data breach, choosing to apply certain state standards nationally. And it's because of a patchwork that states have prohibited discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, despite the fact that our laws at the federal level are still lacking.

Particularly in the area of consumer privacy, we should be wary of pre-emption that could lock in place federal standards that are soon obsolete. Today, even refrigerators can collect sensitive data. New technology will likely require additional protections and experimenting with different solutions, and states have a vital role in fashioning those solutions.

The private sector is making a calculated move here after reckoning with the fact that there's popular momentum for federal privacy legislation following revelations of Cambridge Analytica's misuse of Facebook data. Companies know that many states have mustered the political will to pass strong privacy protections that address consumer concerns. And they know that Congress is so paralyzed by gridlock that it has been unable to act even where there is overwhelming bipartisan agreement. So many see here an opportunity to try to enact weak federal protections and kneecap state privacy efforts in the process.

This doesn't mean we should give up on strong federal privacy legislation; we need it now more than ever. But any such legislation must put consumers in control of their data. It must require companies to clearly inform consumers about their data practices and get consent to retain, share or otherwise use consumer data. It must address coercive practices that condition services on consumers' consent to unnecessary data collection, and put in place limits on how data can be retained and used. And, perhaps most importantly, it must give the government a large stick for enforcement and consumers a way to take companies that violate privacy to court.

Critically, this federal legislation should act as a floor, not a ceiling, for privacy interests. We should be highly skeptical of any proposal that would wipe out existing privacy laws that protect consumers or foreclose states from acting to address future privacy threats. Such pre-emption from Congress would be a win for business interests at the expense of the public.

Neema Singh Guliani is senior legislative counsel at the American Civil Liberties Union.

## OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other stateside syndicates.

#### Remarks on Trump's remarks The Baltimore Sun

Dear Sens. Jeff Flake, Susan Collins and Lisa Murkowski,

There was a time — fleeting as it was—when it seemed President Donald Trump would give the proper respect and deference due to Christine Blasey Ford, the St-year-old psychology professor who has accused Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh of sexually assaulting her at a party when she was 15. Last week after her testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee, Trump called her "very compelling" and a "very credible witness." ...

Trump's civility did not last, of course. He eventually got around to speculating about how she, or her parents, would surely have reported the incident to police decades ago had it really happened—jenoring the reality of such trauma and how rarely it comes to light. But the president hit rock bottom Tuesday when, speaking before a political rally in Mississippi, he savagely mocked Ford. "I don't know. I don't know. 'Usptairs? Downstairs? Where was it? 'I don't know," Trump said in his shameful attempt to imitate her testimony. "But I had one beer. That's the only thing I remember."

What followed this public sadism? Cheering. Laughter. Applause. ...

We write to you, senators, because you know — as all Americans must know — that you hold the future of the Kavanaugh nomination in your hands. It's clear most senators have already made their choices in this matter following the customary lines of Washington's tribal politics. Plake, in particular, demonstrated that while he may be inclined toward consenting on the nominee, he can recognize that something sesually lines in the contract of the properties of t

Meanwhile, there's the matter of Kavanaugh's own testimony before the committee, his sharply partisan tone that seemed inappropriate to a first-year District Court judge let alone a Supreme Court justice. Flake recently admitted he was troubled by the "tone" of Kavanaugh's remarks. How often does a nominee talk about "revenge for the Clintons" or other perceived partisan slights as Kavanaugh did last week?

And then there's the matter of how often the nominee evaded questions about, or outright misrepresented, his heavy drinking to the Senate committee and the prospect that his memory of events in 1982 is hazy at best.

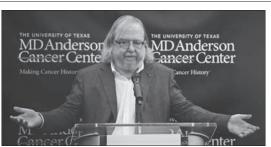
Don't let this train leave the station, senators, not if you care about decency, about the integrity of the court, about what this episode is telling victims of sexual abuse.

## Tenn. city increases the peace Johnson City (Tenn.) Press Congretulations, Johnson City, For the

Congratulations, Johnson City. For the second time in less than one month, you've demonstrated just how mostly civil you can be during a high-profile, hot-button event with large crowds.

with large crowds.
On Monday, you showed that civility to the whole world, shining a positive light on Johnson City and Northeast Tennessee.

As thousands upon thousands of people descended on Freedom Hall Civic Center either to praise or protest the presence of President Donald Trump, there were no significant incidents to mar the historic



ETO MATTHEWS

Jim Allison, a 2018 Nobel Prize winner for medicine, speaks to the press Monday in New York. He is director of immunology at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

visit. Plenty of verbal sparring — some of it vulgar — took place as Trump supporters passed the hundreds of demonstrators at and around Freedom Hall, but overall, people on both sides largely remained calm. Johnson City police reported no arrests.

Given just how divided the country is over the president and politics in general, it's to this region's credit that such a large number of people could exercise their rights of assembly and free speech without unrest. Regardless of caustic partisan messages inside or outside the arena, Johnson City came away without a scratch. We saw the same outcome Sept. 15 when

We saw the same outcome Sept. 15 when thousands of LGBTQ citzens and their allies gathered in downtown Johnson City for the inaugural TriPride parade and festival. That event unfortunately required an equally heavy police presence resulting from threats picked up by the FBI. But both the parade and the festival went off with little more than barbs from a half-dozen protesters.

If only our nation could demonstrate such good behavior—without heavy police protection—in everything we do, from social media chat to the floors of Congress. Restoring respectful discourse to our daily conversations would go a long way toward moving us off center on the important issues facing the nation. Instead, we vilify one another to extremes not seen in decades. Our behavior is holding us back at every turn.

But for Johnson City, Monday's national spotlight was thankfully better than what beset Charlottesville, Va., last year. For one day at least, we could agree to disagree without unpleasant circumstances.

#### Current state of net neutrality Chicago Sun-Times Trying to protect an open internet state

Trying to protect an open internet state by state, rather than by federal law, is a daunting and unwieldy goal.

Unfortunately, it's also entirely necessary, given that the Trump administration and Congress are more than happy to let internet providers restrict what we — the American people — can see and access

Just on Sunday, the U.S., Justice Department sued to stop California from requiring "net neutrality," the concept of protecting full and equal access to the internet. It's a sad day — and a threat to our democracy—when the federal government goes to bat for those who would squelch the free flow of information.

Why is this a big worry? President Donald Trump and his administration have been all about attacking independent news sources and trying to reshape the media into a lapdog that supports all the president's policies. As much as the internet has been abused by bogus web and social media sites, an independent internet is an important part of maintaining an informed citizenry.

Getting rid of net neutrality also means

you might pay more for such things as streaming movies from particular sites. You might also suddenly find you can't go into competition with an established webbased company with your own web-based start-up because you don't have the deep pockets to pay for fast internet speeds.

Last year, the Federal Communications Commission pulled back Obama-era rules to protect internet access. Several states, including Washington, Oregon and Vermont, have enacted some protections in response. But a bill California Gov. Jerry Brown signed Sunday gives that state the nation's toughest laws protecting internet freedom.

Average Americans have come to assume that the internet is a level playing field where they can go wherever they want. But the big internet service providers see an opportunity to make huge profits by speeding up connection speeds for companies willing to pay a premium while slowing down speeds for those who don't pay.

That would put corporate entities in the position of deciding who gets information at what speed. Many valued voices on the internet could be throttled out of existence.

Telecommunication companies say they dread the thought of having to contend with a patchwork of internet access laws from state to state. No doubt. But the solution is not the wholesale dispensing with net neutrality. Rather, the companies should be leading the charge for a free and open internet.

#### An immigration policy low point Los Angeles Times

Stoking fears of changing demographics and hinting at the decline of white America, the Trump administration has adopted a severe, xenophobic immigration policy. After trying to bar Muslims from the country, after insulting Mexicans, after cutting back the number of refugees admitted, after separating children from their parents, the latest outrage is that the government has moved nearly 2,000 of the estimated 13,000 "unaccompanied minors" it has in custody to a barrent net city in the remote border town of Turnillo, Texas, about 30 miles southeast of El Pasa.

According to The New York Times, the children were awakened, put onto buses with snacks and backpacks, and shipped off to the internment camp in the dead of night, supposedly because they would be less likely to try to escape in the dark. At their new "emergency shelter," they will be without access to schooling or to lawyers.

It cannot possibly be morally permissible to cram 2,000 children into a tent city in West Texas while they await hearings on whether they should be allowed to stay in the country. Or to target for arrest family and friends who are willing to take in some of the children. Or, for that matter, to arrest families seeking asylum, jailing the parents on misdemeanor illegal border-crossing charges and removing their

children from them.

Yet this is where we are as a country, Sure, many people have protested the administration's draconian steps, and immigration advocates have fought some of the moves in court. But President Donald Trump just bulls ahead with little meaningful pushback from Congress, which has for far too long shirked its responsibility to fix the unworkable immigration system.

The U.S. should have an immigration system that balances its economic needs with its right to control its border and with reasonable ideas of fairness, justice and generosity. We should reopen our arms to refugees who deserve resettlement, after proper vetting, instead of slamming the border gates shut. We need to continue to focus, in part, on reunifying families. We should offer a path to citizenship to the 11 million undocumented immigrants leading productive, lawful lives, beginning with the so-called Dreamers, people who live here illegally after being brought here as children. It's unfair and self-defeating for the government to deport them - especially after they have been raised as Americans and educated by American taxpavers nations where they are strangers. The U.S. needs enforcement at the border to ensure an orderly immigration process in which rational decisions are made about who may come in and out - but Americans also need to acknowledge that our economic strength as a nation is based on immigration.

#### What drives this Nobel winner Houston Chronicle

Jim Allison lost his mother, a brother, two uncles and a cousin to cancer, but he says he never set out to find a cure for the disease. Like many great scientists, he was driven by "the selfish desire to be the first person on the planet to know something," as he explained to Houston Chronicle medical writer Todd Ackerman.

In the 1990s, Allison's development of an antibody that frees the body's immune system to attack tumors revived the moribund field of immunotherapy, now taking its place alongside surgery, chemotherapy and radiation as a key weapon in treating

Allison, the MD Anderson Cancer Cener's director of immunology, was honored on Monday with the Nobel Prize in Medicine. He shared the award with Tasuku Honjo, of Kyoto University in Japan, who conducted similar research.

The Nobel announcement is a proud moment for the harmonica-playing scientist, for MD Anderson and for Houston. And it's a reminder that even amid the turmoil and drama that often roils major medical institutions, the men and women tolling behind the scenes in labs deserve our support —including the support of public funding —even when the practical benefits of their work aren't immediately apparent. "Everyone thought I was crazy," Allison

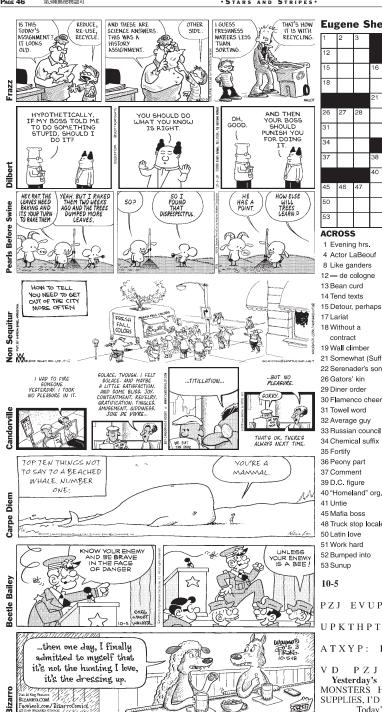
"Everyone thought I was crazy," Allison said, when his research with mice challenged conventional wisdom regarding the function of a newly identified protein. While other scientists believed the protein stimulated the immune system, Allison's work indicated it had the opposite effect—it was a brake, not a gas pedal.

Even as Allison's work advanced — he figured out how to unlock the brake — it wasn't clear whether or when it would lead to effective treatments. Twenty years later, immunotherapy drugs are extending the lives of patients with lung, breast and other deadly cancers.

The accolades for Allison's work over the past few years have coincided with controversy and turmoil in the institution that employs him.

Leadership issues and financial prob-

Leadersing issues and manical proplems ebb and flow, but the work of scientists like Jim Allison will endure. Its legacy will be the lengthened and improved lives of countless cancer patients, and the inspiration that trickles down to future generations of researchers driven, like Allison, by a pure thirst for knowledge.



#### Fugene Sheffer Crossword

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- contract 19 Wall climber
- 21 Somewhat (Suff.)
- 22 Serenader's song
- 30 Flamenco cheer
- 31 Towel word
- 32 Average guy
- 33 Russian council
- 34 Chemical suffix
- 35 Fortify
- 37 Comment
- 39 D.C. figure
- 40 "Homeland" org.
- 41 Untie
- 45 Mafia boss
- 48 Truck stop locale
- 50 Latin love
- 51 Work hard
- 52 Bumped into
- 53 Sunup

- 55 Connections

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    - "The Post"
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    - 10 Sass
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    - 24 Mater lead-in Answer to Previous Puzzle

- 26 Blacken on a grill 27 Painter Magritte
- 28 Utah city
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  - Indonesia
- 33 Apollo's
  - birthplace
- 35 X-ray's cousin
- 36 Curly-haired dog
- 38 Future oak
- 39 Unadorned
- 42 Valley, Calif.
- 43 Idyllic place
- 44 Tennis barriers
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- 47 "Wham!"
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CRYPTOQUIP

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ATXYP UJNJB PZJAYTBOJKU

PZJRVKYO.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF MEAN FAIRY-TALE MONSTERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TOO MANY SUPPLIES, I'D CALL THAT OGRE-ABUNDANCE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals L

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WOULD TAKE UP

NICE OUT

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WON'T STAY

HE DOESN'T

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  - flatware
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- 15 Served soup 16 Curved molding
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- 22 Yoga pad
- 24 Cattle call
- 27 Enrages 29 Florida county
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- 35 Duel tool 36 Sleuth Wolfe
- 37 "Uh-huh"
- 40 Dance partner?
- 42 Sault Marie
- 46 LP player
- 50 Compassion 52 Not as messy
- 54 Do to do
- 55 Bottled spirits?
- 56 London's river 57 Serengeti grazer

- 4 Is for you?
- 5 Snoopy's foe
- 6 Spanish greeting
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- defenseless
- 8 Club -
- 9 Armed forces
- 10 Paradise
- 11 Arp's art
- 12 Author Umberto
- 18 Himalayan peak
- 21 Fib
- 23 Oklahoma city
- 24 Fannie -
- 25 Antonym (Abbr.)
- fish

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

#### SHIA M A

30 HST follower

31 Sixth sense

33 Started

34 Sweetie

39 Range

41 Accra's

42 Espy

45 Exploits

country

43 Dash gauge

47 "Don't rub --!"

48 Serve lunch to

49 Apr. addressee

51 Deli meat

53 Slithery



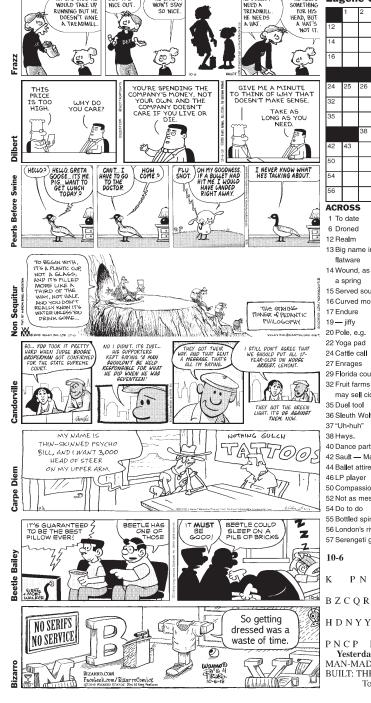
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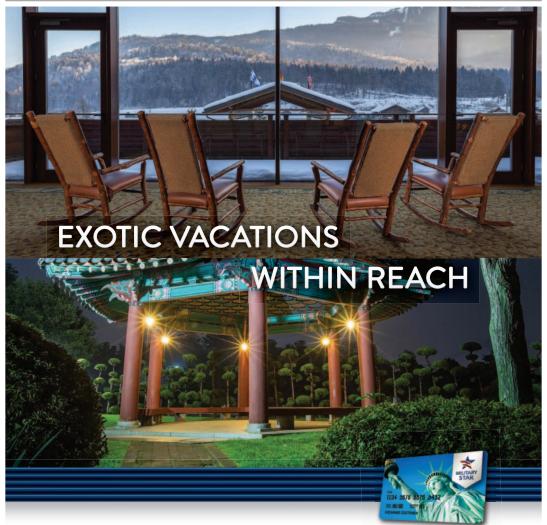
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PNUKZ CGLC PNCP SMYPPUZ. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE MOST INFERIOR MAN-MADE STRUCTURES THAT WERE EVER BUILT: THE SEVEN BLUNDERS OF THE WORLD. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals T





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#### Tennis

#### China Open

China Open

At The National Tenhis Center

Wednesday

The National Tenhis Center

Purse ATP, 5.17 Seiling

Purse ATP, 5.17 Seiling

Surface Hard-Outdoor

Men

Dusan Laine Robia, def. Grigor

Dimitrov (3), Bulgaria, 6.4, 2.6, 6.4

Syle Ermanu (5), 6.7 Lain, def. Matteo

Brills (1), 6.7 Lain, def. Matteo

Filip Krajindwic, Serbia, def. Feliciant

Dozez, Spain, 7.6, 5.8, 6.3, 7.3 Agreetina,

def. Karen Khachanov, Russia, 6.4, 7.6

Women

Women Second Round Karolina Pliskova (7), Czech Republic, def. Aliaksandra Sasnovich, Belarus, 6-3, 6-4. 6-4. Anag Shuai, China, def. Timea Babos, Hungary, 6-1, 6-2. Caroline Wozniacki (2), Denmark, def. Petra Martic (9), Croatia, 7-5, 6-3. Third Round

Anastasija Sevastova, Latvia, def. Donna Vekic, Croatia, 6-3, 6-2. Dominika Cibulkova, Czech Republic, def. Sloane Stephens (9), United States, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Japan Open Wednesday At Musashino Forest Sport Plaza

Tokyo Purse: \$1.78 million (WT500) Surface: Hard-Out Singles First Round

First Round
Nick Kyrgios, Australia, def. Yoshihito
Nishioka, Japan, 7-5, 7-6 (3),
Alex de Minaur, Australia, def. Gilles
Simon, France, 6-7 (1), 7-6 (5), 6-2.
Kevin Anderson (2), South Africa, def.
Matthew Ebden, Australia, 4-6, 7-6 (1),
6-2.

6-2.

Second Round

Kei Nishikori (3), Japan, def. Benoit
Paire, France, 6-3, 7-5.
Daniil Medvedev, Russia, def. Martin
Klizan, Slovakia, 6-4, 6-3. Daniii Medvedev, Russia, dei. Martin Klizan, Slovakia, 6-4, 6-3. Milos Raonic (6), Canada, def. Yosuke Watanuki, Japan, 6-3, 7-6 (2). Denis Shapovalov, Canada, def. Stan Wawrinka, Switzerland, 4-6, 6-1, 6-4.

## Pro soccer

MLO										
EASTERN CONFERENCE										
	W	6 7	т	Pts	GF	GA				
Atlanta United FC	19	6	6	63	65	38				
New York	19	- 7	5	62	57	32				
New York City FC	15	9	8	53	55	41				
Columbus	13	9	9	48	39	38				
Philadelphia	14	12	5	47	43	45				
Montreal	12	15	- 4	40	42	52				
D.C. United	10	11	8	38	53	48				
New England	8		11	35	44	49				
Toronto FC	9	15	6	33	54	58				
Chicago	8	16	7	31	46	57				
Orlando City	7	18	4	25	40	66				
WESTER	N C	ON	FERI	ENCE						
	w	Ľ	Ţ	Pts	GF	GA				
FC Dallas	15	6	9	54	49	38				
Sporting KC	15	8	7	52	55	37				
Los Angeles FC	14	8	8	50	58	46				
Portland	13	. 9	8 9 5 7	48	46	45				
Seattle	14	11	5	47	41	32				
Real Salt Lake		11	- 7	46	50					
LA Galaxy	12	11	8	44	60	59				
Vancouver	11	12	7	40	47	59				
Minnesota United	11	16	á	36	45	58				
Houston	9	13	8	35	50	45				
Colorado	- 6	18	6	24	32	59				
San Jose	4	19	. 8	20	47	66				
Note: Three	poii	าเร	tor	vict	огу,	one				
point for tie.										
Saturday's games										

Saturday's games
Columbus at Montreal
New England at Atlanta United FC
Vancouver at Toronto FC
Minnesota United at Philadelphia
Orlando City at FC Dallas
LA Galaxy at Sporting Kansas City
Los Angeles FC at Colorado
Portland at Real Salt Lake
New York at San Jose

## College football

#### Schedule Friday, Oct. 5 EAST

Schedule
Friday, Oct. 5

Bartmouth (3-Gayfide (2-1)
Georgia Tech (2-3) at Louisville (2-3)
Middle Temesses (2-7) at Marshall (2-1)
Utah St. (3-1) at BYU (3-2)
Saturday, Oct. 6

Colgate (4-9) at Baucheril (1-4)
Utah St. (3-1) at BYU (3-2)
Saturday, Oct. 6

Colgate (4-9) at Baucheril (1-4)
Saturday, Oct. 6

Colgate (4-9) at Baucheril (1-4)
Saturday, Oct. 7

Kansas (2-3) at West Virginia (4-0)
Saturday, Oct. 7

Kansas (2-3) at West Virginia (4-0)
Saturday, Oct. 7

Kansas (2-3) at West Virginia (4-0)
Saturday, Oct. 7

Kansas (2-3) at Columbia (2-1)
Bryant (3-1) at Columbia (2-1)
Bryant (3-1) at Columbia (2-1)
Bryant (3-1) at Duquesne (3-2)
Saturday, Oct. 7

Old Dominion (1-4) at FAU (2-3) Charleston Southern (1-2) at Savan-Charleston Southern (1-2) at Savan-Charleston Southern (1-2) at Savan-Tennessee St. (2-1) at Austin Peay (2-2) at Charleston Southern (1-2) at Savan-Charleston (1-2) at Delaware St. (2-4) at Grambling (1-2) at Delaware St. (2-4) at Grambling (1-2) at Men (1-4) at Menth Alabama (2-2) west Florids (1-4) at Menth Alabama (2-2) west Florids (1-4) at Menth Alabama (2-2) at Menth (1-2) at Men

Nebraska (6-4) at Wijsconsin (3-1)
Alabama (5-0) at Arkansas (1-4)
Oldahoma (5-0) vs. Texas (4-1) at Dallas
Stephen F. Austin (1-3) at Sam Houslackoon St. (1-2) at Ark.-Pine Bluff (1-4)
Karasa St. (2-3) at Baylor (3-(4-1)
St. Louislana (2-3) atl Incarnate Word (2-2)
Houston Baylot (1-3) at Cent. Arkansas (5-6) (2-3) at Rice (1-4)
Kentucky (5-0) at Rices (3-4)
Kentucky (5-0) at Rices (3-4)
(Alabama A&M (2-3) at Texas Southern (1-3)
(Alabama A&M (2-

(1-3) North Texas (4-1) at UTEP (0-5) FAR WEST

North Texas (4-1) at UTEP (0-5)
UEA (0-4) at 1. Washington (4-1)
S. Utah (0-4) at E. Washington (4-1)
S. Utah (0-4) at E. Washington (4-1)
Say (1-2) at 1. Washington (4-1)
Arizona St. (3-2) at Colorado (4-0)
Arizona St. (3-2) at Colorado (4-0)
Weber St. (3-1) at N. Arizona (2-3)
Weber St. (3-1) at N. Arizona (2-2)
Weber St. (3-1) at N. Arizona (2-2)
Capifornia (3-1) at UCA (3-1)
Capifornia (3-1) at Arizona (4-3)
Colorado St. (1-4) at San Jose St. (0-4)
Wyoming (2-3) at Hawali (3-1)
Wyoming (2-3) at Hawali (3-1)

#### Pro basketball

#### NBA preseason

NDH presedsoli Wey Yerk 107, Brooklyn 102 Detwork 107, Brooklyn 102 Detwork 107, Brooklyn 102 Detwork 107, Brooklyn 102 Detwork 107, Brooklyn 102 Phoenix 91, New Zealand Breakers 86 LA Clippers 128, Minnesota 101 Thursday's games Indiana 128, Minnesota 101 Sacramento at LA. Lakers Friday's games Philadelphia vs. Dallas at Shanghai

Flamengo Flamengo at Orlando Melbourne United at Toronto Perth Wildcats at Denver Portland at Phoenix Sacramento vs. Golden State at Se-

Miami at Washington New Orleans at New York Atlanta at Memphis Oklahoma City at Minnesota Detroit at San Antonio Adelaide 36ers at Utah

#### Pro football

NFL injury report NEW YORK — The National Football League injury report, as provided by the league (DNP: did not practice; LIMITED: ;FULL:)

league (DNP: did not practice; LIMITED: Sunday MIAMI DOLPHINS: DNP: WR Dom-BENRALS — DRIVEN — DRIVEN

(knee), G Alex Redmond (shoulder), WR John Ross (groin).

NEW YORK GHANTS at CAROLINA PANTHERS – GHANTS: NDP: LB CONNOR BARVING (KNEE), TE EVAN ENGRAM (KNEE), DE DAMON HARTISON (KNEE), WR Sterling Shepard (back). LIMITED: CB Ell Apple (groin), CB AROLINO (groin), WR COOK Latimer (Knee), LB Olivier Vernon (ankle), PANTHERS: DNP: TE Greg Olsen (ankie). PANTHERS: DNP: IE Greg Usen (foot), DE Julius Peppers (not injury re-lated). FULL: DT Vernon Butler (shoul-der), WR Damiere Byrd (knee), WR Curtis Samuel (medical illness), G Trai Turner

DENVER BRONCOS at NEW YORK
JETS — BRONCOS: DNP: LB Todd Davis DENVER BRONCOS, at New Justice 18 (1997) and the Lead of the Lead

Williams (Kilee), Ed. Action (Khumb).

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS at KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — JAGUARS: DNP: Re
Leonard Fournette (hamstring), CB D.J.
Hayden (toe), C Brandon Linder (knee,
back), G Andrew Norwell (foot), TE Ausback), G Andrew Norwell (1000), 1E AUS-tin Seferian-Jenkins (core muscle). LIM-tin Seferian-Jenkins (core muscle). LIM-Cann (triceus). Termel Parriel (knee). RB T.J. Yeldon (ankle). CHIEFS: DNP: S Eric Berry (heel). LIMITED: LB Dee Ford (groin), WR Sammy Watkins (hamstring). FULL: WR Chris Conley (ankle). DE Chris Jones (Shoulder). C Mitch Morse (back).

jones (shoulder), C Miften Morre (Back)

GREEN BAY PACKERS at DETROIT LIONS — PACKERS, DIVEN RE GENORIDO

BANK DE MARCHES DIVEN RE GENORIDO

BANK DE JONES DE MARCHES DE LIMING (FARIAM (GREE), DIVEN

BANK DE JONES DE LIMING (FARIAM (GREE), DE JONES DE LIMING (FARIAM (GREEN), DE JONES DE LIMING (GREEN), TE MARCHES DE LI

Wilson (back).

BALTIMORE RAVENS at CLEVELAND
BROWNS — RAVENS: DNP: CB Anthony
Averett (hamstring), WR John Brown
(not injury related), CB Brandon Carr
(knee), WR Michael Crabtree (not injury (knee), WR Michael Crabtree (not injury related), LB Anthony Levine (hamstring), S Eric Weddle (not injury related), LB Tim Williams (hamstring), G Marshal Yanda (not injury related), LIMITED: LB Chris Board (concussion), RB Alex Collins (knee), DT Willie Henry (abdomen), TE Hayden Hurst (foot) RPOWNS: DNP: LR

Hayden Hurst (foot). BROWNES DNP: LB
James Burgess (knee), WR Antonio Callaway (knee), WR Jarvis Landry (knee),
S Damardous Randall (knee), FULL: DT
S BARDALONS BROWNES STATE (wrist), QB Tyrod Taylor (back).
ATLANTA FALCONS: B PTYSBURGH
ATLANTA F

TENNESSE TIT ANS AT BUFFALO BILLS
TITANS: DNP: T Dennis Kelly (Iliness), S
Keny Vaccaro (Blow), IE DWesley Woody
Davis (Iliness), FULL: RB David Fluellen
(groin), QB Blaine Gabbert (concussion),
QB Marcus Mariota (right elbow), BILLS:
DNP: LB Lorenzo Alexander (not injury
related), S, Rafael Bush (shoulder), S, Mi-

related), S katael Bush (shoulder), S Mi-cah Hyde (groin), DT Kyle Williams (not injury related), LiMITED: TE Charles Clay TULL: RB Marcus Murphy (rib) OAKLAND RAIDERS at LOS ANGELES CHARGERS: NO REPORT. MINNESOTA WIKINGS at PHILADELPHIA MINNESOTA WIKINGS at PHILADELPHIA

MINNESOTA VIKINGS at PHILADEL PHIL EAGLES - VIKINGS 50P: R8 Dalvin Cook (hamstring), DE Everson Griffen (kines, cussion). LIMITED: D Tashaham Bower (ankle), DT Linval Joseph (shoulder), GS (ankle), DT Linval Joseph (shoulder), GS (ankle), DT Linval Joseph (shoulder), GS (ankle), ET Linval Joseph (shoulder), RS (ankle), ET Linval Joseph (shoulder), RS (ankle), WE Refired (show), LS Kevin McDermott (inger), T Riley Refir (toot), MCD Tasham (shoulder), RS Corey Clement (audricep), DT Fletcher CR Carriello, Will All Romer Linval CR Carriello, Will All Romer Linvalled Lawrence (shoulder), RS Lawrence (s

RB Darren Sproles (hamstring), LIMITED:
Jason Peters (quadrices)
Lason Peters (quadrices)
Lason

DALLAS COWBOYS at HOUSTON TEX-ANS — COWBOYS: DNP: C Travis Fred-erick (illness), LB Sean Lee (hamstring), WR Terrance Williams (not injury relat-ed). LIMITED: CB Chidobe Awuzie (an-kle), WR Cole Beasley (ankle), DT Mallek Collins (knee), DE Demarcus Lawrence (shoulder), DT Antwaum Woods (calf), FULL: WR Tayon ustin (shoulder), RB Ezekiel Eliot (inee), 5 Jeff Heath (nec), Ezekiel Elliott (knee), 5 Jeff Heath (neck.) TEXAMS ONP: CB Arom Colvin (enkle), IEXAMS ONP: CB Arom Colvin (enkle), Jadeveon Clowney (foot), WR Sammie Coates (hamstring), WR Neke Coutee (hamstring), WR Will ruller (hamstring), Hopkins (thumb, ankle, hamstring), CB Johnathan Joseph (groin), G Senio Kele-ton, Call (enkled), Della (enkled), Della (enkled), Della (enkled), Li Watt (high), CB Sharecee Wright (shoulder), FULL: CB Kareem Jackee Cewiolit (shoulder), FULL: CB Kareem Jackee (enkled), CB LI Watt (Humb), T Kendall Lamm (shoulder), CB LI Watt (Humb), T Kendall L Nick Martin (ankle), CB Kayvon Webste

WASHINGTON REDSKINS at NEW OR-LEANS SAINTS — REDSKINS: No Report. SAINTS: No Report.

## Wednesday's transactions

Deals

COMMISSIONERS OFFICE — Announced Chicago Cubs INF Addison Russell accepted a 40-game suspension for violating Major League Baseball's Joint Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Policy, retroactive to Sept.

American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Fired Buck
Showalter manager and Dan Duquette
executive vice president of baseball operations. Announced director of player erations. Announced director of played development Brian Graham, will handle day-to-day oversight of baseball operations department in the interim period. Recalled C Andrew Susac, SS Engells Vielma and OF Anthony Santander from Norfolk (IL) and RIP Hunter Harvey from Bowie (EL).

OWIE (EL).

CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Assigned Custin Garneau outright to Charlotte

(IL).

CLEVELAND INDIANS — Recalled RHPs
Ben Taylor and Julian Merryweather, 2B
Eric Stamets, OFS Oscar Mercado and
Bradley Zimmer and S Yu Chang from
Columbus (II).

CAMPAGE AND A CONTROLL OF THE AND A CONTROLL

Lewis Thorpe and RHP Fernando Romero from Rochester (IL). I.S. – Recalled S S OAKLAND ATHLEIS - Recalled S S OAKLAND ATHLEIS - Recalled S PH RI-CATO ROdriguez from Nashville (PCL) and C Jose Tevino, RHP Jonathan Her-nandez and LHPS Brett Martin and Joe Pallumbo from Frisco (TL). National League ARIZON DAMONIBACKS - Recalled JUSE OED JAMONIBACKS - Recalled JUSE OED JAMONIBACKS - Recalled

RHPs Braden Shipley and Joey Krehbiel from Reno (PCL) and LHP Jared Miller and 2B Domingo Leyba from Jackson (SL). CHICAGO CUBS — Recalled RHP Oscar

CHICAGO CUBS — Recalled RHP Oscar De La Cruz From Tennessee (SL). CINCINNATI REDS — Assigned C Tim Federowicz and OF Gabriel Guerrero out-right to Louisville (IL). MIAMI MARLINS — Recalled LHP Dil-lon Peters, OF Braxton Lee and RHPs Tyler Cloyd and James Needy from New Tyler Cloyd and James Needy from New Stream (PCL) and IHP Miguel Del Pozo Stream (PCL) and LHP Miguel Del Pozo Stream (PCL) and Companies from Jack-

sonville (SL).

MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Recalled SS
Mauricio Dubon and RHPs Aaron Wilkerson and Adrian Houser from San Antonio
(PCL) and RHP Marcos Diplan from Biloxi

NEW YORK METS — Recalled LHP P.J.
combon, Status Guillbrome and RHPs Gencombon, Status Guillbrome and RHPs
Gendiaban from Syracuse (II), RHP Franklyn
Kilome from Binghantion (EL) and P.F.
Franklyn

(Appalachian). SAN DIEGO PADRES — Designated LHP

SAN DIEGO PADRES — Designated LHJ
Jose Torres for assignment. Reinstater
3B Christian Villanueva from the 10-day
DL. Recalled 2B Carlos Asuaje, CS Luis
Torrens and Raffy Lopez and RHPS Walk
er Lockett and Colin Rea from El Pasc
(PCL) and SS Allen Cordoba from Lake

(PCL) and SS Allen Cordoba from Lake Esisione (Gal).

SAN FRANCSCO GIANTS — Beinstated FO SEVEND BURGAT FOOTBALL CALLED TO TO THE LOW SEVEND FOR CLEFACTOR SEVEND FROM SEVEND FOR CLEFACTOR SEVEND FROM SEVEND FOR CONTROL SEVEND FOR SEVEND FOR THE SEVEND FOR SEVEND FOR

Santos.

NEW YORK GIANTS — Signed OT Jylan
are to the practice squad.

OAKLAND RAIDERS — Placed OT Don-

d Penn on injured reserve. Signed OL n Silberman from Tennessee's practice

lan Silberman from reminessees a procuse silberman from reminessees procused signed of Jamil Douglas to the practice squad.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

NHI — Suspended Washington F. Tom William 2 games for a blindside hit to the substantial silbert silbert

Redmond from San Diego (ÄHİ) to Reād-ing (ECHL).

DALLAS STARS — Assigned D Ondrej Vala and Chris Martenet from Texas CHROLLE (STAR) — Placed DS Nik-LAS FROMALI, retroactive to Sept. 28, and Jonathan Ericsson, retroactive to Sept. 20, on injured reserve. Recalled RW Luke Witkowski and Ds Joe Hicketts and Filip Hronek from Grand Rapids (AHL). Signed

Hronek from Grand Rapids (AHL). Signed D Matt Finn to a professional tryout. MINNESOTA WILD — Traded D Gustav Olofsson to Montreal for F Will Bitten. Assigned Bitten to lowa (AHL). Assigned F Dante Salituro from Iowa (AHL) to Allen (CFUL).

F Dante Salituro from lowa (AHL) to Allen (ECHL).

NASHUE PREDATORS — Assigned Saligned of Trawa SENATORS — Assigned G FILIP GUILDEN SENATORS — Assigned G SIMON MINIPER JETS — Assigned D Simon Bourque from Manitoba to Jacksonville (ECHL).

## **Boxing**

## Fight schedule

At Bangkok, Thailand, Srisaket Sor Rungyisai vs. Iran Diaz, 12, for Sor Rungyisai's WBC junio bantamweight title. At Wintrust Arena, Chicago, Artur Beterbiev vs. Callum Johnson, 12, for Beterbiev's IBF light heavyweight title. Danny Roman vs. Gavin McDonnell, 12, for Roman's WBA, Junior Featherweight.

for Roman's W8A Junior featherweight title; Jessie Wargas vs. Thomas Dulorme, 12, wetterweights; Jarrell Miller vs. Tomasz Ademsk. 20et. 7

At Yokohama, Japan, Naoya Inoue vs. Advisona, Japan, Naoya Inoue vs. Advisona, Japan, Naoya Inoue vs. Advisona, Junior Viller, Markey M

Oct. 13

At Ekaterinburg, Russia, Zolani Tete
vs. Mikhael Aloyan, 12, for Tete's WBO
bantamweight title (World Boxing Super
Series quarterfinals).
At CenturyLink Center, Omaha, Neb.,

At CenturyLink Center, Umana, Neu,, Terence Crawford vs. Jose Benavidez, 12, for Crawford's WBO welterweight title. Oct. 18 At Fantasy Springs Resort Casino, Indio, Calif., Jason Quigley vs. Freddy Hernandez, 10, for Quigley's NABF middleweight title

Oct. 20
At Melbourne, Australia, Felix Al-varado vs. Randy Petalcorin, 12, for the

vacant IBF junior flyweight title. At TD Garden, Boston, Billy Joe Saun ders vs. Demetrius Andrade, 12, for Saunders' WBO middleweight title; Tevin Farmer vs. James Tennyson, 12, for Farmer's IBF junior lightweight title; Kid Galahad vs. Toka Kahn Clary, 12, feather-

Galahad vs. 108a naum onu y ammune weights.
weights. The presence of the prese

middleweight title; Maxim Dadashev vs. Antonio DeMarco, 10, junior welter-

weights.

Oct.21
At Manila, Philippies, Felix Alvarado
yz, Randy Petalcorin, 12. for the vacant
yz, Randy Petalcorin, 12. for the yz,
Kenry Demecillo, 12. bantamweights.
At Madison, New York,
Sergity Derenysela yz, Dahlel Jabost, 12. for the vacant IBF middleweight
title: Alberto Machado vs. Vuandale Evxens, 12. for Machado vs. Vuandale Evxens, 12. for Machado vs. Wa buyer featherweight title.

Arena, New Orleans, Reois Proorals vs. Ferry Flanaqua, 12. lunior

gis Prograis vs. Terry Flanagan, 12, junior welterweights (World Boxing Super Sewener weggins (WORIG BOXING SUper Series quarterfinals); Ivan Baranchyk vs. Anthony Yigit, 12, for Baranchyks' IBF super lightweight title (World Boxing Super Series quarterfinals).

# Rising salaries mean greater expectations

## Fans, teams will demand more from players with enormous raises

By TIM REYNOLDS Associated Press

第3種郵便物設可

BOCA RATON, Fla. - Miami guard Tyler Johnson has already seen what his new-and-much-improved paychecks from the Heat will look like this season.

Frankly, he's still stunned. "It's surreal," Johnson said.

Virtually every player in the NBA is a millionaire. But a handful like Johnson, Denver's Nikola Jokic and Orlando's Aaron Gordon are seeing their salaries rise to a different stratosphere this season, enormous raises that may come with an enormous rise in expectations.

When getting paid like stars, it stands to reason that fans - and their teams - will expect star

"I feel like some people would feel the added pressure, but I don't." said Gordon, who signed a \$76 million extension with Orlando over the summer. "I'm just going to go out there and play the game that I love to play with teammates that I love to play with. I know they'll be there to help take the pressure off me and I'm going to help take the pres-sure off them." According to figures reviewed

by The Associated Press, there are 11 NBA players in line for raises of \$11 million or more this season. Many of them are former high draft picks cashing in on nonrookie deals for the first time, and a couple others are established stars whose deals went from "big" to "really big" this summer.

No one saw more of a salary leap than Jokic, who made \$1.5 million last season and will collect \$25.5 million this season. Jokic is an enormous talent and making his first All-Star team is among his goals this season, but the Nuggets aren't burdening him with significantly higher expectations because of the big pay

The way they see it, he's already earned the payday.

"The contract is the contract," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. "But the great thing is about Nikola Jokic — yes, he's making a lot more money, but it's not going to change who he is. He's a humble kid from Sombor, Serbia, who just wants to play basketball and wants to make his teammates better?

Jokic is the biggest part of some big increased-salary commit-ments by the Nuggets. Gary Harris got a \$14 million raise, going to \$16.5 million this season.

And Jokic said he's not going to

"I'm going to be the same way I was three years ago," said Jokic, who hails from a nation where the average worker takes home the equivalent of about \$8,000 a year. 'It worked really good for me so I'm going to keep it that way."

Many of the biggest-raise getters are former high draft picks cashing in on non-rookie deals for the first time, like Joel Embiid with Philadelphia, Andrew Wiggins with Minnesota and Zach LaVine with Chicago.

Embiid's salary rose \$19.4 million to \$25.5 million. Wiggins got a \$17.9 million raise to \$25.5 million, LaVine is getting a \$16.3 million jump to \$19.5 million, and Gordon will make \$21.6 million an increase of \$16.1 million from last year.

They were all lottery picks, now paid like lottery winners

Chris Paul and Paul George long-established stars — also got \$11 million raises, both now making over \$30 million. Chicago's Jabari Parker (\$20 million, a raise of \$13.2 million) and Houston's Clint Capela (\$13.8 million, a raise of \$11.5 million) also are in the big-raise club.

Heat guard Dwyane Wade knows what that first big payday is like. He has free advice to players like Johnson and Gordon.

What you've got to understand is that just because you're getting \$15 million more now, you don't need to live \$15 million richer," said Wade, who has collected about \$200 million in NBA salaries. Undrafted out of Fresno State,

Johnson was the beneficiary of a bidding war of sorts between Miami and Brooklyn two summers ago. The Nets signed Johnson to a \$50 million offer sheet that the Heat matched, even though it called for Johnson to make a total of about \$11 million in the first



Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic's salary jumped from \$1.5 million last year to \$25.5 million for this season.

two years of the deal and about \$39 million in the last two.

The big money kicks in now, from \$5.9 million last year to \$19.3 million this season. But Johnson's role might not change as much as his paycheck, and Heat coach Erik Spoelstra has urged him to not think he needs to do anything differently because of the salary.

The world that pro athletes live in now, it's much different than it used to be," Spoelstra said. "Guys should embrace it, learn how to compartmentalize, learn how to manage all of that noise in a healthy manner where it's not affecting the thing that matters

most

Johnson has had two years to prepare for this payday.

"What's beautiful about basketball is that basketball doesn't change," Johnson said. "Basketball stays the same. It's you who changes around it. Am I going to change for the better or am I going to change for the worse? I've come to terms with that I'm going to make a big check this year. What other people say, that's just outside noise.'

He and Gordon agree - the money shouldn't change much. "I love this game," Gordon said.

"With or without money."

## Rockets hoping Paul can escape bad playoff luck

By Kristie Rieken Associated Press

LAKE CHARLES, La. - Houston Rockets owner Tilman Fertitta said this week that his team was a "hamstring" away from the Western Conference title last season. The hamstring he was referring to was

Chris Paul's, with the injury the latest setback for the point guard whose illustrious career at times has seemed cursed.

After signing Paul to a four-year, \$160 million extension in the offseason, the Rockets hope the bad luck ends this year and he'll help them to their first title since

"Chris deserves a championship," Fertitta said. "It is time. But luck is luck and it just takes a little luck in sports. You have to set yourself up to be one of the best and then you need a few things to fall into place."

The Rockets led the Warriors 3-2 in the conference finals last season before Paul's season ended with a hamstring injury in Game 5. Golden State won the next two games to advance to the Finals and go on to win the title.

Paul scoffed at the notion that his illtimed hamstring injury was the worst thing that's happened to him.

"If that's the toughest thing, then I'm living a real good life," he said. "But it's definitely up there as far as basketball goes, as far as not being able to influence the out-



Rockets guard Chris Paul puts up a shot over Grizzlies guard Jevon Carter during a preseason game Tuesday. Houston is confident Paul can end his unlucky playoff streak and help the Rockets win a then you're in the wrong profession

But that disappointing end to Paul's first season in Houston was far from the first time things have gone awry at the worst times for the nine-time All-Star He was dogged for years about his inability to escape the second round of the playoffs after making nine trips to the postseason without ever reaching the conference finals before finally breaking through with the Rockets last season.

Paul looked sure to advance in 2015 when he and the Clippers were up 3-1 over the Rockets in the conference semifinals. But they were routed in Game 5 before squandering a 19-point second-half lead in a loss at home in Game 6 and being eliminated in Houston in Game 7.

No one with the Rockets would go as far as to say that Paul might be cursed, but everyone agreed that he's had more than his share of bad luck. Coach Mike D'Antoni feels for Paul. But this isn't the first time he's worked with a superstar point guard with problems such as these.

D'Antoni coached Steve Nash for four seasons on those great teams in Phoenix that were never able to win a title. Nash was named MVP twice, but finished an 18-year career without a ring.

"[Paul's] had a remarkable career, so I don't know how bad of luck it is," D'Antoni said. "Just sometimes at the end of a season it doesn't quite work out. Steve Nash was that way where he had just weird stuff happen. It happens."

"But you keep knocking on the door and eventually it will [open]," D'Antoni continued.

So, does Paul spend a lot of time sitting around thinking about what might have been if he'd been healthy for those last two games last season?

"It sounds crazy but unfortunately I've had a lot of different adversities and challenges and whatnot," he said. "And I know it sounds cliche, but it only made me stronger mentally and everything like that. So for me ... I don't even think about it now." As the owner of Golden Nugget casinos

across the country, Fertitta knows a thing or two about luck. He also knows about heartbreak as a sports fan after cheering on the Houston Oilers for years only to see them fall short of winning a title again and again before leaving for Tennessee.

"The Oilers kept trying to kick the door down and it never happened," he said

That doesn't mean he isn't optimistic that it's time for the tide to turn for Paul who is entering his 14th NBA season. But Paul doesn't think of it that way. Of course, his goal is to win a title and put his years of coming up short behind him. He just doesn't see it as him being due for some good fortune.

'Whatever's going to happen is going to hannen and if that's the had luck that I've had there's some people who have had a lot worse luck than I've had," he said. "So, for me ... whatever happens you move on and you go to the next thing.'

## NHL/COLLEGE FOOTBALL

#### NHL scoreboard

## Eastern Conference Atlantic Division GP W L OT Toronto Montrea New Jersey Carolina Columbus N.Y. Ranger Philadelphi Pittsburgh

#### Western Conference

Central Division										
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA			
Winnipeg	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Minnesota	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Colorado	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
St. Louis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Dallas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Nashville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Chicago	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	Pac	ific [	Divis	ion						
Anaheim	1	1	0	0	2	5	2			
Vancouver	1	1	0	0	2	5	2			
Arizona	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Edmonton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Vegas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Calgary	1	0	1	0	0	2	5			
San Jose	1	0	1	0	0	2	- 5			

SanJose 1 0 1 0 0 2 5

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in onterence advance to playoffs.

Wednesday's games.
Edmonton 4, Cologne 3, 07
Toronto 3, Montreal 2, 07
Washington 7, Boston 0

Washington 7, Boston 0 Vancouver 5, Calgary 2 Anaheim 5, San Jose 2 Thursday's games Washington at Pittsburgh Boston at Buffalo

N.Y. Islanders at Carolina Columbus at Detroit Nashville at N.Y. Rangers Nashville at N.Y. Ranger Chicago at Ottawa Winnipeg at St. Louis Arizona at Dallas Minnesota at Colorado Philadelphia at Vegas Friday's games
Carolina at Columbus
San Jose at Los Angeles

Saturday's games Edmonton vs. New Jersey at Goteborg,

Edmonton vs. New Jersey a weden gar Dallas Winnipeal at Pittsburgh N.Y. Rangers at Buffalo Ottawa at Toronto Florida at Tampa Bay Florida at Tampa Bay Granger Sanger Sang

# **Caps raise Stanley Cup banner**

By HOWARD FENDRICH Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Stanley Cup championship banner rose to the rafters at the home of the Washington Capitals for the first time, and everyone in attendance Wednesday night got to relive the sheer excitement of it all.

Alex Ovechkin and the other players craned their necks to see the video montages of last season on the overhead scoreboard, and couldn't help but smile. Coaches, too, including new head man Todd Reirden. Not to mention the owner and the GM and the assistant equipment manager and anyone else on staff.

And, importantly, the 18,506 fans, decked out in their jerseys most of them in the team's main color, red, so many with Ovechkin's No. 8. They sang along to "We Are the Champions!" in full throat and shook their teamdistributed glow sticks during a half-hour ceremony before Washington opened the regular season by beating the Boston Bruins 7-0 behind a pair of goals from Evgeny Kuznetsov and one apiece from Ovechkin, T.J. Oshie, Nic Dowd, John Carlson and Lars Eller.

"Gave me chills. I was just looking up and I was hearing the crowd sing that song," cen-ter Nicklas Backstrom said, then added with a laugh: "I want to experience that again."

Those fans roared at any mention of "champions." Or any clip of Ovechkin. Or, especially, when Save" by Braden Holtby in Game 2 of the Stanley Cup Final against the Vegas Golden Knights, and Eller's Cup-winning goal in Game 5, and Ovechkin kissing the trophy for the first time back on June



NICK WASS/AF

The Capitals pose with the Stanley Cup under the Stanley Cup champions banner before Wednesday's season opener against the Boston Bruins in Washington.

7. One thing missing from the festivities: any mention or image of Barry Trotz, the coach who led the team to the trophy then left in a contract dispute, replaced by promoted assistant Reirden.

Each burst of cheers sounded as if the games from months ago were being played all over again.

"When you're part of some-thing like that," said Oshie, who scored 24 seconds into the game, "how can you not be excited to get going and try to do it again?

The banner signifying the NHL championship was revealed toward the end of the festivities, slowly lifted to the ceiling, its rise paused long enough for the players to gather on the ice in front of it for photos, the Stanley Cup it-self resting nearby on the ice.

There already were five red banners hanging from the rafters to signify some sort of accomplishment by the Capitals: Three represent a total of 11 division titles, one marks the team's pair of Eastern Conference titles, and the last celebrates a trio of Presidents' Trophy triumphs.

None, of course, is quite as significant as the piece of material hoisted on this night.

"Kind of a historic moment for us. I've always said it's nice to be a part of it; it's nice to be in this organization," Ovechkin said after the game. "Tonight, we had so many emotions, so much fun out there, and you can see how we

## Fields sees bigger role as Georgia seeks 'identity'

By Charles Odum Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. - Five games into the season, No. 2 Georgia is averaging more than 40 points per game - and is still looking to find its stride offensively.

"I think right now we're still trying to find our identity on the offensive side of the ball," left tackle Andrew Thomas said Monday.

The latest tweaks for Georgia produced bigger roles for fresh-man quarterback Justin Fields and tailback Brian Herrien in last week's 38-12 win over Tennessee. The changes could continue in Saturday night's game against Vanderbilt.

Georgia appears determined to make the most of its depth at all skill positions, including quarterback, where Fields played behind Jake Fromm in each of the last three quarters against the Vols.

'It's real exciting and a little different dynamic for the team when he's able to run the ball so



Georgia quarterback Justin Fields, right, picks up yardage during the first half of last week's game against Tennessee in Athens, Ga.

well." tailback Elijah Holyfield said of Fields on Monday. "It's really exciting to watch him come

Georgia (5-0, 3-0 Southeastern Conference) has overcome slow

starts on offense in wins over Tennessee and Missouri the last two weeks.

Fields ran for 45 yards and two touchdowns, adding a different threat to a running game led by

tailbacks Holyfield, Herrien and D'Andre Swift.

In what may be a revealing indicator of his ongoing role, Fields had five carries and only two passes in the game.

"I wouldn't say it's a different energy from Jake, but obviously he can run the ball and that's the thing he brings when he comes on the field." Thomas said of Fields. who scored on runs of 12 and 15

Thomas, like most offensive linemen, likes to block for a strong running game.

Asked what he thinks the offense's identity should be, Thomas said "A balanced offense that is very physical and can run the ball at will."

Herrien set a season high with 56 yards rushing as Georgia ran

for 251 yards against Tennessee. Holyfield has set career highs for carries in two straight games, including 16 for 78 yards against the Vols. No Georgia tailback has had more than 16 carries this

"I think it will pay off in the long run when we're still fresh at the end of the season," Holyfield said. "Some other backs who have a lot of carries might not be as fresh.'

Fromm has completed 72.5 percent of his passes to rank third in the nation. His starting role remains secure. He said after the Tennessee game he "had no idea" how the playing time of the two quarterbacks would be managed by coach Kirby Smart.

"That's just kind of up to coach Smart within the flow the game, Fromm said.

Fields' role could change each week.

When asked after the Tennessee game about possible tweaks to roles for the two quarterbacks. Smart said "The plan is there is no plan."

Smart said Monday that means the usage of the quarterbacks is affected by each week's defensive

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# No. 5 LSU aims to validate gains

By Brett Martel Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — Firstyear LSU quarterback Joe Burrow repeated the term "breakout game" on Monday as he referred to the most recent showing of the Tigers' passing offense.

The implication is that going forward, there's a new, higher standard of production for Burrow and Co.—a premise that will be tested Saturday in Gainesville, Fla.

Florida's defense is not Mississippi's defense.

And a hostile Swamp will be considerably more disruptive to No. 5 LSU — particularly in terms of offensive communication — than Tiger Stadium was last weekend against the Rebels.

"The strength of their team is their defense," LSU coach Ed Orgeron said of the 22nd-ranked Gators. "This is going to be the best defense we've faced so far this year."

With 373 yards of offense With against Ole Miss, highlighted by the best passing performance yet from Burrow, LSU's offense finally looks dialed in. The question is whether such a performance against the reeling Rebels' defense carries over against different teams in different venues.

Ole Miss gave up 62 points to Alabama before losing 45-16 at LSU. The Rebels rank 126th nationally in total defense, allowing 516 yards per game. By contrast, the Gators have allowed the nimb fewest points in the country at 14 per game, are tied with Kansas for most takeaways in the country with 14 and have allowed touchdowns on only 25 percent of opposing offense's trips inside their 20-yard line.

Nonetheless, Burrow asserted that the play-making he and LSU





No. 5 LSU (5-0, 2-0) at No. 22 Florida (4-1, 2-1) AFN-Sports2

9:30 p.m. Saturday CET 4:30 a.m. Sunday JKT

receivers put on display against Ole Miss bodes well for the rest of the season.

"I knew that we had this game in us because we're so talented and I'd seen it all summer and all camp, but we hadn't really done it in a game," Burrow said. "That's because we were kind of feeling each other out chemistry-wise, up front, receivers, me, (offensive coordinator Steve) Ensminger. And when you have a game like that, it really boosts your confidence going forward."

Burrow began the season with a still has not thrown an interception while helping the Tigers race to a 5-0 start. For the season, LSU still ranks 78th nationally in total offense (396 6 yards per game), in part because of relatively modest passing production in the first four games.

But against Ole Miss, Burrow completed 72 percent of his passes (18-for-25) for 292 yards and three TDs, hitting nine different receivers in the process.

LSU rushed for 281 yards against the Rebels with eight different players, including Burrow, carrying the ball. But LSU already had run well from the start of the season, led by Nick Brossette's 409 yards and five TDs.



RALD HERRERT/AP

LSU running back Nick Brossette has rushed for 409 yards and five touchdowns this season. The Tigers play Florida on Saturday.



IOTOS BY SUE OGROCKI/A

Oklahoma quarterback Kyler Murray can't ignore the Heisman chatter. So far, he has better numbers than Baker Mayfield produced during the first five games of his Heisman-winning season last year.

# **OU quarterback Murray embraces Heisman hype**

By CLIFF BRUNT Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla.

Norman quarterback
klahoma quarterback
kyler Murray is comfortable with all that
Heisman Trophy contender— it's
why the first-round Major League
Baseball draft choice put off his
baseball career.

In his first season as a starter, Murray ranks second in the nation in passing efficiency behind Alabama's Tua Tagovailoa. He has better numbers than Baker Mayfield produced during the first five games of his Heismanwinning season last year.

The hype surrounding Murray grows with each dynamic performance.

"It's hard not to hear," he said.
"Obviously, Ihearit. I've dreamed
of it my whole life, winning the
Heisman. But at the same time,
I'm not a complacent guy. For me,
it's just one week at a time, one
day at a time. That's how I look
at it."

Murray will step onto his biggest stage yet Saturday when No. 7 Oklahoma (5-0) plays No. 19 Texas (4-1) in Dallas. The 5-foot-10 junior understands that winning creates the clearest path to his personal goals.

"Keep playing the way I'm playing," he said. "Whatever it may be, we'll see where we end up. For me, it's just about winning games and doing what's right for the team. Individual goals will come along if you do what you do. I'm not worried about it."





No. 19 Texas (4-1, 2-0) vs. No. 7 Oklahoma (5-0, 2-0) at Dallas AFN-Sports

6 p.m. Saturday CET 1 a.m. Sunday JKT



The Oakland Athletics selected Murray with the ninth overall nick of the baseball draft.

Teammates say Murray is taking the attention in stride. After all, he was one of the most highly recruited quarterbacks in the nation coming out of high school. The Oakland Athletics made the outfielder the ninth overall pick in this year's draft.

"He's a great guy," Oklahoma receiver CeeDee Lamb said. "He never gets rattled with the outside noise. He stays within himself and stays within us."

Even when things haven't been smooth for Murray, they've turned out OK. Murray set his alarm wrong last Thursday and arrived late to practice on Friday. Per team rules, he didn't start on Saturday against Baylor.

After sitting out the first series, he played one of the best games in Oklahoma history. He completed 17 of 21 passes for 432 yards and six touchdowns and ran for 45 yards and another score in the 66-33 win. He tied Mayfield's school record by accounting for seven touchdowns and set a school record for passing efficiency in a game.

"That was as good a performance as we've seen from about anybody," said Oklahoma co-offensive coordinator Cale Gundy, a former Sooners quarterback.

Mayfield has the career and single-season FBS passer efficiency records, was the No. 1 overall draft pick and now starts for the Cleveland Browns. Yet Murray is more versatile. He's second on the team with 276 yards rushing and leads the Sooners with four rushing touchdowns.

For those who thought the Big 12 Conference was going to get a reprieve when Mayfield left, Murray has perhaps created even bigger problems for opponents.

Murray's surge is the result of his accuracy. He has completed 70.6 percent of his passes and leads the nation in passing yards per attempt and per completion.

## OLLEGE FOOTBALL

## Top 25 schedule

Saturday No. 1 Alabama at Arkanasa No. 2 Georgia vs. Vanderbilt No. 3 Ohio State vs. Indiana No. 4 Clemson at Wake Forest No. 5 LSU at No. 22 Florida No. 6 Notre Dame at No. 24 Virginia ch

Tech No. 7 Oklahoma vs. No. 18 Texas at Dal-

No. 7 Oklahoma vs. No. 18 Texas at Dal-lac. 8 Auburn at Mississippi at Albacia No. 8 Auburn at Mississippi at Santas No. 19 Washington at UCLA No. 12 UCF vs. SMU No. 13 Memtucky at Texas A&M No. 15 Michigan vs. Maryland No. 15 Michigan vs. Maryland No. 15 Michigan vs. Maryland No. 16 Wisconsi vs. Nebraska No. 20 Michigan State vs. Northwest-ern

ern No. 21 Colorado vs. Arizona State No. 23 NC State vs. Boston College No. 25 Oklahoma State vs. Iowa State

## Service academies



vs. Navy Last week: Lost 28-25 to Nevada







at Air Force Last week: Did not play

### **Power Five standings**

	ACC			
	Atlantic			
		Cor		Overal
Clemson		2	0	5 (
NC State		ī	0	4 !
Boston College Syracuse		1	0	4 :
Florida State		i	1 2 1	
Wake Forest		ô	í	3 :
Louisville		ŏ	ż	4 4 3 3
	Coastal	-	-	
Virginia Tech		2	0	3 :
Miami		1	0	4
North Carolina		1	1	1 :
Virginia Pittsburgh		ī	1	3 :
Duke		1	i	4
Georgia Tech		ŏ	2	3 4 1 3 2 4 2
acorgia rear		۰	-	
	Big 12			
Oklahoma		2	0	5 (

Big 12							
Oklahoma West Virginia Texas Baylor Texas Tech Oklahoma State TCU Kansas State Kansas Iowa State	2 0 2 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 2 0 2	5 0 4 0 4 1 3 1 3 2 4 1 3 2 2 3 2 3 1 3					

Big len							
Ohio State Michigan Maryland Michigan State Indiana Penn State Rutgers Wisconsin Northwestern Purdue Iowa Minnesota Illinois Nebraska	East West	2 2 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 1 1 2 0 1 1 1 1 1 1	5 0 4 11 3 1 4 1 4 1 1 4 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 0 4			
Pac-12							

Nebraska	0	2	0 4
Pac-12			
Stanford Washington Oregon Washington State California Oregon State	2 2 1 1 0 0	0 1 1 1 2	4 0 4 1 4 1 4 1 3 1 1 4
Colorado JSC Arizona State Arizona JCLA Jtah	1 1 1 0 0	0 1 1 1 1 2	4 0 3 2 3 2 2 3 0 4 2 2
SEC			
Georgia Kentucky Florida South Carolina Wissouri Vanderbilt	3 2 1 0 0	0 0 1 2 1	5 0 5 0 4 1 2 2 3 1 2 2

Alabama

LSU Auburn Texas A&M Mississippi State



DOUGAL BROWNLIE, THE GAZETTE/AF

Air Force quarterback Donald Hammond III dives for a touchdown against Nevada last week in Colorado Springs, Colo. Air Force will host Navy on Saturday (AFN-Atlantic, 9:30 p.m. Saturday CET; 4:30 a.m. Sunday, JKT) in the first contest for the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy.

## Key Power Five matchups

#### No. 6 Notre Dame at No. 24 Virginia Tech 2 a.m. Sunday, CET; 9 a.m. Sunday, JKT AFN-Atlantic

Series record: Virginia Tech leads 1-0. What's at stake?: The Fighting Irish try to stay unbeaten and in line for long run at the College Football Playoff. The Hokies are trying to beat a ranked team for the season straight week after losing to Old

Key matchup: Virginia Tech's run defense against Notre Dame's ground game. The Fighting Irish have rushed for an average of 201 yards per game while the Hokies have limited their opponents to an average of 84 yards, fourth-best in FBS.

Players to watch: Notre Dame RB Dexter Williams. He ran for 161 yards on 21 carries in his season debut last week against Stanford, including a 45-yard run on his first carry.

Virginia Tech QB Ryan Willis. He threw for 332 yards and a career-best three touchdowns in his first start for the Hokies a week ago against Duke. The transfer from Kansas set a Virginia Tech record for most passing yards in his first start.

Facts & figures: Notre Dame is 2-0 against ranked teams, having beaten No. 15 Michigan 24-17 in its opener and No. 14 Stanford 38-17 last week. The Hokies are the only currently ranked team remaining on Notre Dame's schedule. ... Notre Dame DT Jerry Tillery tied a school record with four sacks in the victory against Stanford and has seven sacks this season. ... Irish QB Ian Book threw four touchdown passes against the Cardinal and added 47 rushing yards on 15 attempts. ... Virginia Tech twice overcame 17-point deficits in its only prior meeting with Notre Dame, winning 34-31 in 2016.

... The Hokies are seeking consecutive victories against ranked opponents for the first time since they beat No. 19 Nebraska and No. 9 Miami in 2009. ... RB Steven Peoples has run for five touchdowns in the past three games and WR Damon Hazleton has a touchdown reception in all four games.

#### Maryland at No. 15 Michigan 6 p.m Saturday, CET; 1 a.m. Sunday, JKT AFN-Sports2

Series record: Michigan leads 6-1. What's at stake?: The Wolverines need a confidence-building tuneup before playing Wisconsin, at Michigan State and Penn State in their next three games. The Terrapins are aiming for their second win against a ranked team this season.

Key matchup: The start of the game. Michigan has struggled early in some games and Maryland might be able to build momentum if it can continue the trend. The Wolverines trailed Northwestern 17-0 last week, were tied with SMU 7-all late in the second quarter and fell behind 14-0 against Notre

Players to watch: Maryland TB Ty Johnson. The senior running back ran for 123 yards in a win over Minnesota for his second 100-yard game of the season and 10th of his career. He was held to 30 yards rushing on 11 carries in a win over No. 23

Michigan FB Ben Mason. He has run for four TDs on 11 carries this season and has six touchdowns on 14 career carries. Mason is used both as a traditional fullback and as the only back behind QB Shea Patterson

Facts & figures: Former Michigan defensive coordinator DJ Durkin is on administrative leave pending results of an independent investigation about the culture of the program and first-year offensive coordinator Matt Canada is Maryland's interim coach. ... The Wolverines are facing a team coming off a bye for the second straight week ... Michigan has won three straight in the series since losing 23-16 to the Terrapins at home in 2014 ... Maryland has a 1.25-plus turnover margin, leading the Big Ten and ranking 10th in the nation ... Michigan DE Chase Winovich has a Big Ten-best 101/2 tackles for losses, ranking third in the country.

#### No. 13 Kentucky at Texas A&M 1 a.m. Sunday, CET; 8 a.m. Sunday JKT AFN-Sports2

Series record: Tied 1-1

What's at stake?: The Wildcats seek their first 6-0 start since beginning 10-0 in 1950. They can also become bowl eligible with a win and keep pace with No. 2 Georgia in the SEC East. The Aggies seek consecutive conference victories after beating Arkansas 24-17 last week.

**Key matchup:** Aggies QB Kellen Mond vs. Kentucky's pass rush. The sophomore has com pleted 60 percent of his passes for 1,221 yards and seven touchdowns against four interceptions. He'll face a Wildcats defense that sacked South Carolina's Jake Bentley four times and intercepted three passes. Kentucky has registered nine of its 12 sacks in league play.

Players to watch: Kentucky LB Josh Allen. The senior leads the SEC with six sacks and 10.5

tackles for loss. He had eight tackles (four for loss), three sacks, a forced fumble and quarterback hurry against South Carolina to earn conference Defensive Player of the Week honors.

Texas A&M RB Trayveon Williams. The Aggies junior is second to Kentucky's Benny Snell Jr. in SEC rushing with 582 yards on 96 carries and six TDs. He bounced back from 31-yard effort against top-ranked Alabama to gain 152 and score twice on 29 attempts against Arkansas.

Facts & figures: Texas A&M edged Kentucky 7-6 in the last series meeting in 1953. The Wildcats visit College Station for the first time since 1952. Legendary Alabama coach Paul "Bear" Bryant guided both Kentucky (1946-53) and A&M (1954-57) before heading to Tuscaloosa. ... Kentucky coach Mark Stoops was A&M coach Jimho Fisher's defensive coordinator at Florida State from 2010-12.

The Wildcats rank third in SFC total defense at 287.8 yards per game. ... The Aggies are third in SEC offense at 511.8 yards per game.

Associated Press

## MLB PLAYOFFS





#### ALDS Game 1 **Cleveland Indians at Houston Astros** AFN-Sports2

8 p.m. Friday CET 3 a.m. Saturday JKT

## ALDS capsule

A look at the best-of-five series between the Cleveland Indians and Houston Astros:

A look at the best-of-five series between the Cleveland Indians and Houston Astros:

Projected lineups: Indians: SS Francisco Lindor Projected lineups: Indians: SS Francisco Lindor (277, 38 Hrs, 92 R818, 42 28s, 25 SEs), LF Michael Brantley (309, 17, 76), 28 Jose Ramirez (272, 33, 207), 160, 34 SSb, 104 Edwin Franzanacion (246, 32, 107), 160, 34 SSb, 104 Edwin Franzanacion (246, 32, 107), 18 Jose Alberta (280, 6, 39), 18 Yangher (230, 18, 75).

California (280, 16, 16, 16, 16, 16, 16, 16), 18 House Regman (268, 13, 13), 18 House Regman (268, 13, 18), 18 House Regman (260, 13, 18), 18 House Regman (260, 13, 18), 18 House Regman (261, 12, 13, 18), 18 House Regman (261,

Matchups: First postseason meeting between these teams... Indians faced Astros twice in May, losing two of three games at Minute Maid Park before splitting four-game series with defending before splitting four-game series with defending outscored 45-29 in those seven games... Cleveland won 8-6 and 10-9 slugfests over Houston in final two games, taking the finale on Greg Aller's walk-outscored 5-29 in those seven games... Cleveland two games, taking the finale on Greg Aller's walk-outscored 5-29 in the finale of Greg 5-29 in the finale fin Matchups: First postseason meeting between

second in McLs with 250 datung average and Assu-were seventh at .255.

Big picture: Indians: Cleveland (91-71) waltzed to third straight AL Central title with sights set on October and possibly ending World Series championship drought dating to 1948 — longest current streak in majors. ... Cleveland might be better prepared than ever for postseason with a superb starting rotation anchored by Kluber and a lineup strengthened by the late-season acquisition of Donaldson, the 2015 AL MVP, ... Lindor and Ramirez

strengthened by the late-season acquisition of Donaldson, the 2015 AL MVP. ... Lindor and Ramirez Donaldson, the 2015 AL MVP. ... Lindor and Ramirez bining for 77 homers, 198 RBIs and 59 steals. They're the first teammates to each get 80 extra-base hits in consecutive seasons since 'knihese Hall of Pambers, 198 HBIs and 198 steals. They're seasons since 'knihese Hall of Pambers, 198 HBIs and Hall of H

Watch for Immess, fills and doubles.

Watch for:

■ Dynamite or Duds? Lindor and Ramirez make the indians' offense go — or stop. The pair didn't they went a combined 4 for 38 and struck out 18 mess against the Yankees.

■ Cornea's back. The top overall pick in the 22.

■ Cornea's back. The top overall pick in the 23.

It cornea's back. The top overall pick in the 32.

It cornea's back. The top overall pick in the 33.

If this season but struggled with a back injury for most of the second half. He missed about six weeks and hit just. 180 with two homers and 16 he's feeling better now and hopes he can get back to 180 mess the seeling better now and hopes he can get back to 180 mess. The seeling better now and hopes he can get back to 18

# **Indians try to erase '17 failure**

Key offensive stars Lindor, Ramirez out to improve on dreadful playoff performances

By Tom WITHERS Associated Press

CLEVELAND - October's immense pressure can breed stars or break them. Last year, it cracked Francisco Lindor and Jose Ramirez.

Dynamic from April until September, Cleveland's All-Star duo was dreadful in the postseason.

'It was surprising to me," Indians center fielder Jason Kipnis said as the club prepared to face Houston in the AL Division Series. "Only because of how consistently good they are."

After posting offensive statistics not recorded by teammates in decades, Lindor and Ramirez both fell into prolonged postseason slumps at the same time - the worst time for Cleveland. The pair batted a combined .105 (4-for-38) with 13 strikeouts, and their ineptitude was one of the main reasons why the Indians coughed up a 2-0 series lead and were eliminated in five games by the New York Yankees. The end was stun-

..When both of them kind of struggled together it was such a big part

hurt us. 7 Terry Francona Indians manager

of our of-

fense, it

ning. So was watching Lindor and Ramirez flail at pitches.

It can't happen again, not if the Indians have any plans of unseating the defending World Series champion Astros or ending their own 70-year Series title drought. Make no mistake,

Lindor and Ramirez make the Indians go. They're the pistons to an offensive engine that has sputtered at times this season. Both possess surprising power and

speed and are as capable of working a walk as driving a ball into the gap for a double. Ramirez led the Indians with 39 homers, Lindor connected for 38 and the infield-

ers became the first switch-hitting teammates in history to reach 30 homers in the same season. Tack on their other numbers from last season, and Ramirez and Lindor are the first teammates to get at least 80 extra-base hits in consecutive years since

The first? Only Hall of Famers Lou Gehrig and Joe DiMaggio. And Lindor, 24, and Ramirez, 26, may just be getting started. But while they've put together remark-

able regular seasons, the postseason is when greats are judged, and Lindor and Ramirez didn't measure un last October.

Lindor's grand slam in Game 2 helped the Indians rally for a 9-8 win in 13 innings, but he got just one more hit in the series and finished 2-for-18 (.111) with six strikeouts. Ramirez was as bad, going 2for-20 (.100) and fanned seven times.

They shrunk, and the Indians withered with them

"We started to uncharacteristically chase [pitches] down and up," manager Terry Francona said. "The hope is you don't chase anywhere, but if you're going to chase, maybe just have it be one, not both. Then when both of them kind of struggled together it was such a big part of our of-fense, it hurt us."

Cleveland's lineup is deeper this time around. Starting with Lindor leading off to Kipnis in the No. 9 hole, the Indians have power from top to bottom. Also, the recent



The Indians' Francisco Lindor, right, and Jose Ramirez are the heart of Cleveland's offense. When they faltered in the playoffs last year, the Indians were eliminated.

addition of former MVP Josh Donaldson gives Francona another player capable to changing the game with one swing Lindor and Ramirez aren't alone.

"I don't think these guys are feeling any more pressure to do more than they're capable of doing," said Donaldson, who came over in August from Toronto. "At the same time, it takes a total team effort. You watched the wild-card game last night. It took a guy that comes in the 13th inning, gets a base-hit up the middle. The guy hit .170 all year. The playoffs I've been in, a lot of the times the guys that are having the success aren't probably the guys you're looking at to have it

"So it's important for everybody to be sharp, be ready."

It all starts with Lindor and Ramirez. and Francona is confident they can handle

"They've been through so much already at a young point in their careers that these games aren't going to be too big for 'em," he said. "We don't have a crystal ball, you don't know how anybody's going to do. But I don't think it's going to be because of the magnitude of the game.

There is some concern, though. Ramirez

struggled over the final six weeks, batting just .185 and his slump probably cost him any chance of winning league MVP honors. But he showed signs of putting things together during the final series in Kansas City, where he admitted that chasing some personal milestones may have affected his

Ramirez ended September looking much more like himself. However, now is when appearances mat-

ter, and Kipnis said it's vital all the Indians

"In October, you just need stuff to go your way and Jose is starting to get some better swings here of late and Frankie has been locked in for, oh, about 24 months, it seems like," Kipnis said. "So we're excited. I think the best thing we can do is have good at-bats around those guvs and make it easier on them.

"If we get a guy on third with less than two outs for Frankie and he rolls over, instead of thinking 'I'm 0-for-1.' He's got an RBI and that's how you make it easier, by changing his mindset. And that's how we can make it easier on everyone — if we can share the weight of the load and just pass the baton down the lineup."

## MLB PLAYOFFS

## Scoreboard

#### Wild card

Colorado 2, Chicago 1, 13 innings Wednesday: New York 7, Oakland 2

## **Division series**

(Best-of-five; x-if necessary)
American League
Boston vs. New York
Friday: at Boston (Sel 12-4)
Saturday: at Boston (Price (16-7)
Monday: Boston (Porcello 17-7
w York

x-Tuesday, Oct. 9: at New York x-Thursday, Oct. 11: at Boston

x-Tuesday, Oct. 9: at New York
Houston vs. Cleveland
Friday: Cleveland (Kluber 20-7) at
Friday: Cleveland (Kluber 20-7) at
Houston (Cole 15-5)
Saturday: Cleveland (Carasco 17-10)
at Houston (Cole 15-5)
x-Tuesday, Oct. 9: at Cleveland
Cleveland (Cleveland (Carasco 17-10)
x-Tuesday, Oct. 9: at Cleveland
x-Thursday, Oct. 9: at Cleveland
Milwaukee vs. Colorade
Friday: at Milwaukee
Sunday: at Colorado
x-Wednerday, Oct. 9: at Milwaukee
Los Angeles vs. Atlanta
Thursday, Oct. 10: at Milwaukee
Los Angeles vs. Atlanta
Thouston (Colorado
x-Wednerday, Oct. 10: at Milwaukee
Los Angeles (Kershaw 9-5)
Friday: at Los Angeles (Kershaw 9-5)
x-Monday at Atlanta
x-Wednerday at Atlanta
x-Wednerday at Atlanta
x-Wednerday at Atlanta
x-Wednerday at Atlanta

#### Wednesday AL wild-card game Yankees 7, Athletics 2

McCtchn If 3 1 0 0 0 Gardner If 0 0 0 0 Judge rf 3 2 2 2 A.Hicks cf 4 1 1 1 Stanton dh 3 2 1 1 Martini If 4 0 1 0 0 Canha ph 1 0 0 0 0 M.Chpmn 3b 5 0 1 0 Lowrie 2b 4 1 0 0 0 K.Davis dh 4 1 1 2 M.Olson 1b 2 0 0 0 Pscotty rf 3 0 0 0 Voit 1b 4 1 1 2 Walker 1b 0 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 3 0 1 0 4 0 1 0 Grgrius ss 3 0 1 1 Andujar 3b 1 0 1 0 Hchvrra 3b 2 0 0 0 G.Sanch c 3 0 0 0 G.Sanch c 3 0 0 0 G.Trres 2b 3 0 0 0 Totals 29 7 7 7 000 000 020—2 200 004 01x—7 —Oakland 1. LOB—

E—Andujai (1), DF—Garialia I. Edg— Oakland 9, New York 3, 2B—Judge (1), A.Hicks (1), 3B—Voit (1), HR—K.Davis (1), Judge (1), Stanton (1), SB—Stanton (1), SF—Gregorius (1).

	IP	н	R	ER	BB	50
Oakland						
Hendriks L,0-1	1	1	2	2	1	1
Trivino	3	1	0	0	1	- 4
Kelley	1	1	0	0	0	0
Rodney	0	2	2	2	0	0
Treinen	2	2	3	3	2	0
Familia	1	0	0	0	0	1
New York						
Severino	4	2	0	0	4	7
Betances W.1-0	2	0	0	0	0	3
Robertson	1	0	0	0	0	1
Britton	1	2	2	2	- 1	0
Chapman	1	1	0	0	0	2
L.Severino pi	tched	to 2	bat	ters	in	the
5th Rodney pite	ched t	0 2	batt	ers	in	the

## **New York routs Oakland in wild-card game**

A's come up short in front of boisterous Bronx crowd

> BY RONALD BLUM Associated Press

NEW YORK — Aaron Judge got the party started with a tworun homer nine pitches in. By the time Giancarlo Stanton capped the mauling with monstrous drive in his postseason debut, New York Yankees fans already were look-

ing ahead. "We w want Boston!" chanted.

Coming up next.

"It's going to be intense," CC Sabathia predicted after the Yankees pounded the Oakland Athletics 7-2 on Wednesday night to win their second straight AL wildcard game. New York will take a train

to Boston for a best-of-five Di-vision Series starting Friday night, a matchup of 100-win heavyweights.

"I think they're ready and relish the opportunity to go up against the game's best this year, Yankees rookie manager Aaron Boone said of his players.

Boone remains a dirty word among the Fenway Park faithful. His 11th-inning homer in Game 7 of the 2003 AL Championship Series beat the Red Sox. A year later Boston overcame the Yankees and became the first major league team to bounce back from a 3-0 postseason deficit. The Red Sox went on to win their first World Series since 1918, but Boone's drive off Tim Wakefield has not been forgotten or forgiven.

Boston went 10-9 against the Yankees this year and set a club record with 108 wins. New York became the first team since the 2001 A's to reach triple digits in wins and fail to finish first.

"We've just got to do our homework and come out swinging," said Luke Voit, who broke open



PHTOOS BY FRANK FRANKLIN II. ABOVE, AND BILL KOSTROUN, LEFT/AF

the game with a two-run triple in a four-run sixth.

Luis Severino atoned for last vear's flop in the wild-card game against Minnesota, pitching nohit shutout ball into the fifth. Dellin Betances entered with two on and got six straight outs as part of a five-hitter and the Yankees Athletics on a sacrifice fly by Didi Gregorius during the sixth inning on Wednesday. Left: Oakland's Chad Pinder sits on the bench after the A's lost to the Yankees 7-2 in the American League wild-card playoff game in New York.

Above: New York first baseman Luke Voit scores against the

extended their home postseason winning streak to seven.

Severino let out a primal scream after escaping a bases-loaded jam in the fourth with a 99.6 fastball his fastest pitch of the night — to strike out Marcus Semien.

Yankees fans fretted about an all-or-nothing knockout match, thinking back to last year when Severino fell behind Minnesota 3-0 just 10 pitches in. New York rallied for an 8-4 win, but the memory remained raw.

Severino retired his first three batters in order on 10 pitches

"I think the first inning was huge for me, after all the stuff that

people say on social media, all of that stuff," he explained. Oakland has lost eight straight

winner-take-all postseason games since beating Willie Mays and the New York Mets in Game 7 of the 1973 World Series, and dropped all four of their postseason matchups against the Yankees.

"It's pretty hard but I'm not dis-appointed at all," said big league home run champion Khris Davis, who hit a two-run homer off Zach Britton in the eighth. "I think we showed some people we can do some things and I think next year, we're a little bit more of a

## **Rumble:** Yanks, Red Sox set for first postseason meeting since 2004

#### FROM BACK PAGE

"I think they're ready and relish the opportunity to go up against the game's best this year, Yankees rookie manager Aaron Boone said of his players.

That is the same Aaron Boone whose 11th-inning homer in Game 7 of the 2003 AL Championship Series beat the Red Sox. A vear later Boston overcame the Yankees and became the first major league team to bounce back from a 3-0 postseason deficit. The Red Sox went on to win their first World Series since 1918, but Boone's drive off Tim Wakefield has not been forgotten or forgiven

Boston was 10-9 against the Yankees this year and set a club record with 108 wins under new manager Alex Cora, boosted by MVP candidate Mookie Betts, slugger J.D. Martinez and ace Chris Sale. New York finished eight games back and became the first team since the 2001 Athletics to reach triple digits in wins





**New York Yankees** at Boston Red Sox AFN-Sports2

1:30 a.m. Saturday CET 8:30 a.m. Saturday JKT

and fail to finish first - New York also set the major league mark for home runs, powered by the likes of Aaron Judge and Giancarlo Stanton.

These teams also have a history of hitting each other.
Back on April 11, Austin

charged the mound at Fenway after Red Sox reliever Joe Kelly threw at him twice hitting Austin in the side with the second pitch. Boston players were livid Austin

slid spikes-first into shortstop Brock Holt earlier in the game. A bench-clearing brawl led to suspensions and fines, but Austin won't be around for a rematch - he was dealt to Minnesota in

"It's Yankees-Red Sox. That's what everybody wants. That's what they got," Red Sox star pitcher David Price said then.

Just another in a long history of bad blood between rivals a little more than 200 miles apart.

Boston player-manager Joe Cronin and New York outfielder Jake Powell fought on the field and beneath the Yankee Stadium stands in 1938, and Jimmy Piersall of the Red Sox and Billy Martin of the Yankees brawled beneath Fenway Park's stands in

A fight broke out in 1967 at Vankee Stadium after New York's Thad Tillotson hit Joe Foy with a pitch and Boston's Jim Lonborg hit Tillotson — who after the scrap hit Dick Howser with a pitch.

In 1973, Thurman Munson crashed into catcher Carlton Fisk at Fenway after Gene Michael missed a bunt, and the All-Stars fought. Then at Yankee Stadium in 1976, New York's Lou Piniella charged into Fisk at the plate. and Boston pitcher Bill Lee was body-slammed during the fighting and wound up with a broken collarbone.

A notorious brawl took place during Game 3 of the 2003 AL Championship series, when Red Sox ace Pedro Martinez threw 72-year-old Don Zimmer to the ground

Zimmer, a former Boston manager and then a Yankees coach, ran across the infield and lunged at Martinez during the fighting.

Then the following July, Boston's Bronson Arroyo hit New York's Alex Rodriguez with a nitch A-Rod stared at the nitcher as he walked toward first, catcher Jason Varitek got between them and pushed the AL MVP, leading to dugouts and bullpens

That October the rivals met again in the 2004 ALCS. The Yankees took a 3-0 lead and were one inning from reaching the World Series when Mariano Rivera walked Kevin Millar and pinchrunner Dave Roberts - now the Los Angeles Dodgers manager stole second. Bill Mueller hit a tying single and the Red Sox won 6-4 in 12 innings when David

homer at 1:22 a.m. Boston won 5-4 the next day on Ortiz's RBI single in the 14th inning won Game 6 in New York 4-2 behind Curt Schilling and his bloody sock, then blew out the Yankees 10-3 in the finale.

Ortiz hit a game-ending, two-run

"All empires fall sooner or later," Red Sox president Larry Lucchino said.

Boston swept St. Louis in the World Series, swept Colorado four years later and beat the Cardinals in a six-game series in 2013. Over that same span, the Yankees have won just one title, in 2009.

## MLB PLAYOFFS

# **Staying humble**

## Yelich balances even-keeled attitude with big numbers

You've got to stay humble. Actually, Yelich has hit for the

Cincinnati Reds.

out steps.

cycle twice this year, the first

major leaguer to do so in one sea-

son against the same team, the

Last week against Detroit,

Yelich made the first curtain call

of his career after hitting his sec-

and home run to break a tie in the

It was about as close as Yelich

"First one ever, so I don't really

seventh inning of a 6-5 win.

has come to showing emotion.

know what to do," he said then.

The loud fans at Miller Park chanted "MVP! MVP!" after the

solo shot. He obliged with a brief

appearance, lifting his helmet in

the air about halfway up the dug-

get up there, so I went up there

really quick and went right back down," he said.

the demeanor, too, Rockies man-

Opponents are impressed by

"Everyone was yelling at me to

By Genaro C. Armas Associated Press

MILWAUKEE ith every home run and big hit, it's getting more difficult for Christian Yelich to go out in Milwaukee without heing recognized

It didn't stop the potential National League MVP from making a run to the supermarket for groceries, so his mother could make his favorite dish when she visited recently.

Taco night must go on for the Milwaukee Brewers' All-Star outfielder and the rest of his family.

"So actually he went to the market and bought everything. I sent him a list, so when I got there it was all ready to go and I just had to cook," his mother, Alicia Yelich said

She said that the increased attention isn't getting to her son's head, even with a late-season push for the Triple Crown that fell just short.

The spotlight will shine brighter beginning Thursday when Yelich makes his postseason debut as the Brewers host the Colorado Rockies in Game 1 of their National League Division Series.

The 26-year-old Yelich is known for his humility and evenkeeled demeanor, as much as his exploits at the plate for the Brewers. It's a lesson handed down in the family.

## Being even-keeled helps to be successful at this game. 7

Alicia Yelich

Brewers center fielder Christian Yelich's mother

"I always say you've got to stay humble in life, right? The game is so hard that you really don't know Star Game in July. how your night is going to be," Alicia Yelich said. "You can hit for the cycle or you get four [strikeouts].

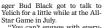
body, but I found time to engage with him," Black said on Wednesday, "And what a nice kid - I mean, really, really great to talk to, and really in a way humble and sort of shy, right?

Yelich hit an NL-best .326 to become the Brewers' first batting champion. He finished tied for third in home runs (36) and tied

race after batting .367 with 25 homers and 67 RBIs in 65 games after the All-Star break. His second-half surge is a big reason why the Brewers won the NL Central making their first playoff appearance since 2011.

her son, Alicia Yelich said, "Christian? No, no."

game.



"You can't engage with every-

"That's sort of how I got it. But what a great kid. So I'm very happy for him," Black said.

for second in RBIs (110) He's the favorite in the NLMVP

Asked if success had changed

"He's very even-keeled," she said. "And being even-keeled helps to be successful at this



The Brewers' Christian Yelich is congratulated after hitting a two-run home run Sept. 28 against the Detroit Tigers. Yelich, the favorite for the NL MVP award, makes his playoff debut on Thursday.



Rockies players feel their home stadium, Coors Field, puts them at a disadvantage when it comes to MLB awards.

## Rockies' elevated stats affect awards

By PAT GRAHAM Associated Press

DENVER -The Colorado Rockies would like to air a little grievance: They're thin on MVP winners in their history. Even lighter on Cy Young candidates.

They wouldn't mind a little altitude adjustment when it comes to conventional thinking at Coors Field As it stands sometimes thev feel like hitters get penalized for hitting at higher elevation half the time and the pitchers don't get rewarded highly enough. It's a scale that doesn't seem

balanced. "Hopefully, that will start to

go away a little bit more," Rockies outfielder Matt Holliday said. Because there are lots of good hitting parks around the league. For people to just single out Coors Field and write it off is unfair."

The Rockies have had 11 batting champions in their past and one MVP winner - Larry Walker in 1997. They've had one pitcher finish in the top-three in the NL Cy Young race, Ubaldo Jimenez

Part of the reason may be this: "It's a challenge to evaluate the numbers in Denver," Phillies manager Gabe Kapler explained.

And that's the mile-high rub for

a field situated at 5,200 feet and viewed as a hitter-friendly venue.

Take, for instance, last season, when Charlie Blackmon won the NL batting title with a .331 average and set an MLB record with 102 RBIs from the leadoff spot. He finished fifth in the award earned by Giancarlo Stanton who had 59 homers.

This season, it will be hard to upstage Christian Yelich after the Milwaukee Brewers outfielder won the NL batting title (.326), drove in 110 runs and hit 36 homers Rockies third baseman Nolan Arenado had quite a season with an NL-leading 38 homers, while Trevor Story became the first major league shortstop to finish with at least 40 doubles, 30 homers and 25 stolen bases. They figure to at least be in the running for the MVP

In Colorado's history, dating to 1993, only five times has a player finished in the top-three in MVP voting. The last was Holliday in 2007, when he hit .340 with 36 homers and 137 RBIs. Holliday was edged out by Jimmy Rollins of Philadelphia.

"For me, it shouldn't matter a guy's got to go out and perform no matter where he's at," Nationals manager Dave Martinez said. "It's not his fault where he plays. It shouldn't matter what field you play on, or if your home field is Coors Field. A lot of good players have played here and went elsewhere and did well.

"If an MVP comes out of here, more power to them."

As for how much power is generated inside Coors Field? That remains a lively debate. The team installed a humidor room in 2002 to control the moisture level in baseballs, which helps keep them from becoming dried out and more hitter-friendly in Denver's thin air

For all their power and pop through the years, the Rockies have never led the majors as a team in homers (although they've led the NL several times). And maybe because of the spacious gaps in the outfield, they've had six batting champions in the last 12 seasons

"To knock a guy just because he plays in a little bit thinner of air, I don't believe is right," Rockies left-hander and Denver native Kyle Freeland said. "In my eyes, I'd love to see everything be an even playing field through and through, no matter what park you're playing at."

Or if it punishes hitters, reward pitchers accordingly.

"I think context is always important," Kapler said. "But I don't think that there should be anybody eliminated from a postseason award based on where they play. I don't think that's fair or reasonable.'

Freeland finished with a 2.40 ERA at Coors Field — the best mark ever by a Colorado starting pitcher. He could be in the mix for the Cy Young, which figures to go to New York Mets standout Jacob deGrom after posting a 1.70 ERA. Only Jimenez and Marvin

Freeman (fourth, 1994) have finished in the top five for Colorado. "That's kind of been what a lot of people have been saying this year,

that if you're going to be docking hitters, why aren't pitchers being elevated?" Freeland said.

# Titans gain confidence with 3 straight wins

By Teresa M. Walker Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Mike Vrabel has been preaching about playing aggressively from the moment he arrived in Tennessee.

A month into the season, the Titans are doing just that.

At 3-1, the Titans are off to their best start since 2013 under their first-year head coach, having won three straight - each by three points.

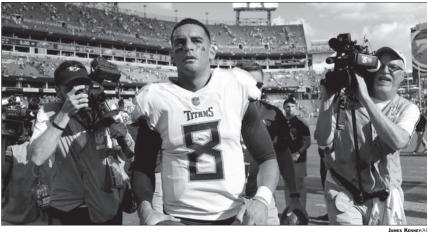
Now Vrabel has a team that just got a big confidence boost from a 26-23 overtime win over the defending Super Bowl champion Eagles

'We're trying to build our reputation as a team and a player on what we're doing and what we will do as opposed to what we've done," Vrabel said.

Vrabel already has made it clear he'll gamble on his Titans, going for it on fourth down more than anyone in the NFL. The Titans have executed, converting five of seven attempts. Three of those came on their game-winning drive in overtime.

The Titans converted a fourthand-15 with Marcus Mariota completing a 19-yard pass. They picked up first down on fourthand-4 on defensive pass interference. Facing fourth-and-2 with Ryan Succop lining up for a 50yard field-goal attempt and a tie, Vrabel put the offense back out, and Mariota hit Dion Lewis for a 17-vard completion. Three plays later. Mariota found Corev Davis for the game-winning touchdown.

"It's great moment, and it's also building great chemistry," line-backer Will Compton said. "Guys are believing and leaning on each other and playing complementary football. The coach believing in us like that, going for it and not kicking the field goal, putting the offense back out there believing in them. It's a lot of momentum



Tennessee Titans quarterback Marcus Mariota leaves the field after the Titans beat the Philadelphia Eagles in overtime to go 3-1.

#### Guys are believing and leaning on each other and playing complementary football. 7

Will Compton Titans linebacker

and chemistry for our football

Vrabel rewarded the Titans with a day off Monday and game halls all around

The last time the Titans started 3-1, they finished 7-9 and Mike Munchak was fired for not making changes on his coaching

ferent coach since that season, and they visit Buffalo (1-3) on Sunday sitting atop the AFC South with a tiebreaker in hand over Jacksonville. This starts a challenging

Vrabel is the Titans' third dif-

stretch with five of the next seven games on the road, not that the keeping the Titans focused.

"Ît's easy to explain to these guys and show them if you don't play well in this league - I don't care where you play, I don't care who you play, you lose," Vrabel said. "That's the NFL."

The Titans have areas to improve. The run game has been nonexistent except for Mariota while facing Houston, Jacksonville and now Philadelphia. The defense can harass and sack quarterbacks, but it ranks 25th against the run, giving up 118 yards a game. Safety Kenny Vaccaro will miss "a few weeks" with an injured right elbow, a position where Tennessee already lost starter Johnathan Cyprien to a

torn left ACL in August. But against the Eagles, Mariota just started and finished his first game this year after being knocked out of the season opener with an injury to his right elbow. He missed a start and came off the bench in Jacksonville for a 9-6 win.

He threw for 344 yards and two touchdowns against Philadelphia. while running for a team-high 46 vards and another score. In the second half and overtime, Mariota was 19-for-25 for 198 yards with two TDs, no interceptions and a 125.1 passer rating.

"When you can execute in the most critical situations," Vrabel said, "you have a chance."

## Vikings' defense seeks to apply pressure



EAGAN, Minn. - With play-action pass after play-action pass, Jared Goff and the Los Angeles Rams just kept picking Minnesota's proud and proven defense apart.

Opportunities for the Vikings to disrupt Goff's rhythm with a well-timed sack or a hurried incompletion were scant, as the high-octane Rams never let up in that 38-31 victory last week over the suddenly sputtering Vikings.

"They don't give you too many drop-back passes where you can rush the quarter-back," coach Mike Zimmer said after that humbling performance when Goff went 26for-33 for 465 yards and five touchdowns. The pressure is on the Vikings (1-2-1) to

rebound from this rough first quarter of the season and climb back toward the top of the NFC where they've been expected to be. Speaking of pressure, well, the Vikings haven't been producing enough of it.

"Just get him off his spot, you know? Be effective," defensive tackle Sheldon Richardson said. "Put a lot of pressure in his

face and around his legs."

Goff was only sacked once and hit twice in 35 passing plays. With Todd Gurley's dangerous presence in the backfield, the Vikings simply weren't able to prioritize rushing Goff over stopping the ground

With Rams coach Sean McVav cleverly calling a variety of rollout and misdirection plays, the Vikings simply weren't able to get to Goff in time. That's one reason their linebackers, safeties and cornerbacks were out of sorts in coverage.

"We've just got to get in the classroom, fix our mistakes, see what we did wrong and just try to get better," said defensive end Danielle Hunter, who has four of the team's 11 sacks.

The Vikings rank seventh in the NFL in sacks per pass attempt at 8.4 percent. As in their loss to Buffalo the week before, though, they didn't deliver that drive-ending or touchdown-saving takedown of the quarter against the Rams when they needed it most.

Richardson pointed to the myriad ways the Rams were able to stay a step ahead with their scheme and, essentially, use the strengths of the Vikings against them.

"It might look like we're not pass rushing, but that's what we're doing. We're doing our job," Richardson said. "I think it can get better.

The Vikings not only led the league last season in fewest points and vards allowed. but they denied opponents on third downs more often than any other team. So far this year, their foes have displayed a desire to call more aggressive plays on second down to avoid those difficult scenarios.

"It's harder to get sacks. Guys are scheming so you won't be able to get sacks. Quarterbacks are aware of that too," Richardson said, not even mentioning the increased emphasis on roughingthe-passer penalties. "In the schemes, it's two-seconds-it's-gone."

Still indefinitely missing defensive end Everson Griffen, while he gets treatment for mental health issues, the Vikings won't have much easier of a time this week at Philadelphia. The Eagles, of course, won the last meeting 38-7 in the NFC championship game last season.



Defensive tackle Sheldon Richardson and the rest of the Vikings have had difficulty

# Chiefs' D is No. 1, but only on third down

By DAVE SKRETTA Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - It would take a Nobel Prize-winning mathematician, or perhaps psychologist, to reconcile one of the biggest statistical oddities involving the Kansas City Chiefs this season.

They have the NFL's worst defense by a longshot, allowing more than 450 yards per game, and they appear to be equally inept at stopping the run and the pass. Yet when they do manage to stop a team on first and second down, they suddenly become the league's best defense on third downs.

Yes, that same sieve-like defense allows a conversion rate of a measly 23.8 percent.

When asked to explain the disparity, Chiefs coach Andy Reid pointed to a sense of pride within his defense, a certain back-against-the-wall mentality that brings out their best. Players pointed to the same thing, though several of them acknowledged Wednesday the dichotomy makes little sense.

"I mean, you've just got to make stops when you need to," cornerback Kendall Fuller said. "When you're going up against the best of the best, they're going to make plays. You've just got to keep on, come back with the same confidence knowing you can make the next play."
So far, the Chiefs have indeed made the

stops when needed. They kept Philip Rivers and Co. in check in a season-opening win over the Chargers, then made enough stops against Ben Roethlisberger and the Steelers, before using their bend-but-don'tbreak style to beat the 49ers at home.

It was on display again Monday night against Denver.

The Chiefs allowed 385 yards, which is downright stingy by their standards, but were especially good on those third downs. They allowed the Broncos to convert just two of their 11 tries, and none of their



Chiefs defensive back Orlando Scandrick, right, breaks up a pass Monday. Kansas City has the league's best third-down defense.

four in the second half, when Kansas City mounted its comeback in a 27-23 victory.

Once again they bowed up when it mattered most.

The Chiefs had just scored to get within 23-20 midway through the fourth quarter when they forced a three-and-out, stuffing Phillip Lindsay on first down and forcing a pair of incompletions. That stop gave them the ball back with plenty of time to go

downfield for the go-ahead score.

Then, when the Broncos raced back the other direction to get in position for a winning touchdown, the Chiefs held on thirdand-10 and again on fourth down to seal the victory.

"When our defense needed to tighten un they tightened up. Whether it was before the half or at the end of the game," Reid said. "Guys are making a good effort. Guys are stepping up at the right time and I'm glad they're doing that."

To put into perspective just how good the Chiefs have been on third down, consider the fact that only two other teams - Baltimore and Philadelphia - are holding opponents below 30 percent conversion rates, and that Cincinnati, which ranks last in that category, allows more than double Kansas City at 57 percent.

## 4-0 Rams focusing on Seahawks, not hype or rings

By GREG BEACHAM The Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. - The Los Angeles Rams realize they're a popular Super Bowl pick after their spectacular first quarter of the season. Pundits, fans and other teams seem to be lining up to praise them.

While they appreciate the respect, this is a profoundly weird experience for any Rams who were around even two years ago for the franchise's less-than-glorious return to LA after a decade of losing in St. Louis.

This team doesn't have much experience in being the favorites for anything, and the Rams are wary of the role.

"I hate it," said Michael Brockers, who has been on the defensive line for seven years.

"I hate looking at 'SportsCenter' and they've got you at the top of the power rankings," Brockers added with a smile. "It's just like, you know, stop crowning us! For me, I'm a humble guy. I don't want to be crowned. I always want the attitude of being the hungry dog, being the underdog, because you almost seem to be more hungrier when you play like that.

Nobody with any experience in



os Angeles Rams running back Todd Gurley celebrates Thursday after a touchdown by wide receiver Brandin Cooks.

the Rams' locker room has forgotten that this franchise is just one year removed from streaks of 13 consecutive losing seasons and 12 consecutive non-playoff seasons. Humility is relatively easy with that struggle still on their minds, according to the players and coaches who went through it. Jared Goff doesn't even turn 24

until next Sunday, but he remem-

bers going 0-7 as a rookie starter for the hapless Rams of 2016.

"I don't think we're getting any bit caught up in anything," said Goff, who's second in the NFL with 1,406 yards passing after his outstanding effort against Minnesota. "I think a lot of people on this team, being part of that team two years ago, understand how easy it is to be on the other side of it, and you don't ever want to go back there."

Receiver Robert Woods said it's 'easy" to ignore the attention the Rams (4-0) are getting.

"It's just buzz," he said. "It's just noise. We've been on both sides. We've been not talked about, and now we're being talked about, but it's really just focus. We know how it goes. We had a great year last year and fell short, and I think this year the team is just focused."

Los Angeles was revived last season by coach Sean McVay, going 11-5 and winning the NFC West before losing its playoff opener. This season's team appeared to be even stronger on paper - and through four games, that's exactly what it has been.

The Rams lead the NFL with 468.5 yards per game of offense, increasing their total every week Only five teams have allowed fewer points than the Rams, and their special teams have thrived despite losing two of their four

Pro Bowl selections to injury. The rest of the football world can get excited about the Rams, but McVay reflexively downplays any idea that they're a Super Bowl

"I have no doubt that we have

the right kind of guvs in our locker room that know it's about earning it every single day," McVay said. "They are confident, but like we've said over and over, there's a humility that exists.'

Along with the respect they've garnered the Rams' 15-5 record over the past 20 regular-season games has turned them into a target for opponents.

The power shift in the NFC West could be cemented this weekend if the Rams can win in Seattle for the second straight season. The Seahawks had won eight division titles in 13 years before Los Angeles shoved past them last season, but the Rams only spoke of the Seahawks with immense respect Wednesday.

"Being hunted, I don't think that bothers us," Brockers said. "Because we've been underdogs for so long, so our mentality isn't even that we're that good. We've won some games, but we know we can get better."

Attention has even darker aspects for professional athletes: Woods' house was burglarized last Thursday while he was playing against the Minnesota Vikings. Police arrested four suspects Tuesday in connection with









## Marquee matchup

SERIES RECORD: Jaguars lead 6-5 LAST MEETING: Chiefs beat Jaguars 19-14, Nov. 6,

LAST WEEK: Jaguars beat Jets 31-12; Chiefs beat Bron-

JAGUARS OFFENSE: OVERALL (15), RUSH (13), PASS

JAGUARS DEFENSE: OVERALL (1), RUSH (10), PASS

CHIEFS OFFENSE: OVERALL (8), RUSH (14), PASS (9)

CHIEFS DEFENSE: OVERALL (32), RUSH (28), PASS

STREAKS, STATS AND NOTES: Chiefs have won three

straight in series. ... Jaguars trying to start 2-0 on road

for first time since 2007, when they beat Chiefs in Week

Jacksonville is 5-1 over last two seasons against

QBs with 10 or fewer starts. Chiefs QB Patrick Ma-

homes has five. ... Jaguars are minus-4 in turnover

margin, tied for 29th in NFL, Chiefs are plus-2, tied

for seventh. ... Jacksonville has allowed NFL-

## Jacksonville Jaguars (3-1) at Kansas City Chiefs (4-0)

## AFN-Sports, 7 p.m. Sunday CET; 2 a.m. Monday JKT

Miami Dolphins (3-1) at Cincinnati Bengals (3-1) AFN-Sports2

7 p.m. Sunday CET 2 a.m. Monday JKT Series: Dolphins lead 15-6.

Last meeting: Bengals beat Dolphins 22-7, Sept. 29, 2016.

Notes: Dolphins have won three of past four meetings... Dolphins QB Ryan Tannehill has a 120-or-higher rating in two of past three meetings.... Bengals QB Andy Dalton completed 29 of 41 passes for 337 yards and three TDs last week.

Rengals WB & L Freen caught

... Bengals WR A.J. Green caught game-winning TD pass with seven seconds left last week.





#### Green Bay Packers (2-1-1) at Detroit Lions (1-3)

AFN-Atlantic 7 p.m. Sunday CET 2 a.m. Monday JKT

Series: Packers lead 98-70-7. Last meeting: Lions beat Packers

35-11, Dec. 31, 2017.

Notes: Lions have won past two meetings. ... Packers coach Mike McCarthy is 18-6 all-time against ... ... Packers QB Aaron Rodgers has 34 TD passes and a 109.4 rating in 16 career games against Lions. ... Lions WR Marvin Jones Jr. has 25 receptions for 507 yards and six TDs in five career games against Packers.

best four TDs this season. Chiefs lead league with 19. ... Jaguars QB Blake Bortles passed David Garrard for secondmost yards passing (16,023) and completions (1,415) in franchise history last week against Jets. ... Jacksonville K Josh Lambo needs to make two more FGs to set franchise record for consecutive makes (21) ... Jacksonville has not allowed an opponent to score on its opening possession this season. Chiefs have scored 52 points in first quarters. ... Jaguars WR Dede Westbrook had career-best 130 yards receiving against Jets. ... Chiefs allow teams to convert 23.8

percent of third downs, best in NFL. ... Kansas
City coach Andy Reid needs four wins
to pass Dan Reeves (201) for eighth
in NFL history. ... Mahomes leads
NFL with 14 TD passes and no interceptions. He also has NFL-best
15 passes of at least 25 yards. ...
Kansas City leads NFL in scoring
at 36.3 points per game.
— Associated Press

ars running back

STEPHEN B. MORTON/AP

T.J. Yeldon





Los Angeles Rams (4-0) at Seattle Seahawks (2-2)

AFN-Sports2 10 p.m. Sunday CET 5 a.m. Monday JKT Series: Seahawks lead 23-16.

Last meeting: Rams beat Seahawks 42-7, Dec. 17, 2017.

Notes: Seahawks have won two of past three meetings. ... Rams are 4-0 for first time since 2001, when they started 6-0. ... Rams QB Jared Goff completed 26 of 33 passes for career-high 465 yards and five TDs last week. ... Seahawks RB Mike Davis rushed for career-high 101 vards last week







AFN-Atlantic 10:25 p.m. Sunday CET 5:25 a.m. Monday JKT

Series: Vikings lead 13-10. Last meeting: Eagles beat Vikings

**Last meeting:** Eagles beat Vikings 21-10, Dec. 23, 2016.

Notes: Vikings have won two of past three meetings, but lost 2017 NFC Championship Game 38-7 last season. ... Vikings QB Kirk Cousins passed for 422 yards and three TDs last week. ... Eagles QB Carson Wentz passed for 348 yards and two TDs last week for 99.4 rating.

## REST OF THE SCHEDULE

N.Y. Giants at Carolina Denver at N.Y. Jets Baltimore at Cleveland Atlanta at Pittsburgh Tennessee at Buffalo Oakland at L.A. Chargers Arizona at San Francisco Open: Tampa Bay, Chicago Monday's game Washington at New Orleans

#### NEXT WEEK

Philadelphia at N.Y. Glant's Asonday, Oct. 11
Seattle vs. Gomday, Oct. 14
Seattle vs. 15
Suffalo at Houston
Indianapolis at N.Y. Jets
Buffalo at Houston
Indianapolis at N.Y. Jets
Buffalo at Houston
Indianapolis at N.Y. Jets
Pittsburgh at Chicalmat
Arizona at Minnesota
Arizona at Minnesota
Arizona at Gleveland
LA. Rams at Denver
Jacksonville at Dalias
Baltimore at Tennessee
Baltimore at Tenn

Dallas Cowboys (2-2) at Houston Texans (1-3), AFN-Sports2, 2:15 a.m. Monday CET; 9:15 a.m. Monday JKT EXPANDED STANDINGS

Game capsules compiled from nflmedia.com

#### American Conference National Conference ΔEC NEC NEC AFC 0 0 0 0 0 0 Pr 64 67 82 73 **Soi** 137 82 1-1-0 Washington .667 .750 90 1-1-0 0-2-0 1-2-0 0-0-0 0-1-0 2-0-0 1-1-0 1-0-0 New England Buffalo .500 .250 95 50 2-0-0 2-1-0 0-2-0 0-1-0 1-1-0 Dallas Philadelphia .500 2-0-0 0-2-0 2-2-0 1-1-0 0-0-0 1-1-0 0-1-0 N.Y. Jets 0 .250 0-1-0 1-2-0 1-0-0 N.Y. Giants 0-2-0 1-1-0 Tennesse 0 New Orleans 0 2-1-0 0-1-0 0-2-0 1-0-0 1-2-0 1-1-0 1-0-0 0-1-0 1-1-0 0-1-0 1-1-0 0-1-0 Carolina Tampa Bay Atlanta 2-0-0 1-1-0 1-2-0 0-1-0 1-1-0 0-1-0 1-1-0 1-0-0 0-1-0 2-1-0 0-1-0 1-0-0 1-2-0 0-1-0 1-1-0 lacksonville 0 750 88 56 2-1-0 0 0 667 71 60 Houston Indianapolis 0-1-0 0-1-0 Cincinnati 0 1-0-0 2-0-0 2-1-0 1-1-0 Chicago 2-0-0 2-0-1 3-1-0 1-1-1 0-0-0 1-0-0 126 123 113 65 2-0-0 3-1-0 1-1-0 1-0-0 65 83 1-1-0 Baltimore Cleveland Pittsburgh 2 102 102 W 1-0-1 0-2-0 0-2-0 1-0-1 1-1-1 0-2-1 0-1-0 1-0-0 0-0-1 0-1-1 Minnesota Detroit 2 1 .375 90 94 W 1-1-0 1-1-0 0-1-1 0-2-0 1-1-1 0-2-0 0-1-0 1-1-0 Kansas City 1.000 145 115 1-0-0 3-0-0 3-0-0 1-0-0 L.A. Rams 0 2 3 0 0 1.000 140 67 2-0-0 2 2 3 0 0 0 2-1-0 1-1-0 1-1-0 0-1-0 1-1-0 0-2-0 1-0-0 1-1-0 0-1-0 .500 .250 1-0-0 1-0-0 0-3-0 2-1-0 0-1-0 1-1-0 0-2-0 .500 97 1-2-0 1-1-0 L.A. Chargers San Francisco 100 Oakland



**ALDS** 

## The champs are here

Capitals raise banner, rout Bruins in season opener » NHL, Page 55

# **SPORTS**

Red Sox, Yanks ready to rumble again in playoffs By RONALD BLUM

Associated Press

NEW YORK ans have been waiting for another one of these rumbles: baseball's most-bitter rivals set to tangle again, this time as 100-win heavyweights in the playoffs.

Munson vs. Fisk, Pedro vs. Popeye, A-Rod vs. Varitek and earlier this vear Brock Holt vs. Tyler Austin.

The Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees back at each other in the postseason for the first time in 14

"We're a team that can play with anybody, and we're not afraid to go in there," Yankees center fielder Aaron Hicks said after a 7-2 wild-card win over Oakland sent New York to a best-of-five AL Division Series that starts Friday in Fenway Park.

Yankees fans were chanting "We want Boston!" during the late innings. The Red Sox tweeted "We want New York" after the final out in the Bronx.

SEE PLAYOFFS ON PAGE 59

#### Inside:

Indians' Lindor, Ramirez out to erase memory of last year's playoff failure, Page 58



